

THE TIMES

TUESDAY DECEMBER 4 1984

20p

No 62,003

THE TIMES
Tomorrow

Christmas cheer
The Times Cook
brings back the fun
of ancient festivities
Change of time
Who will be the
new man to control
the BBC's music?
The moral view
What price the
freedom of
the sexual revolution?
Sticky wicket
Preview of England's
chances in the one-day
international against
India at Poona.

Portfolio

The Times Portfolio competition prize of £2,000 was won outright yesterday by Mrs Julie Pehrson of Pockridge, Herts. Portfolio list, page 26; how to play, information service, back page.

BA profits increase to £189m

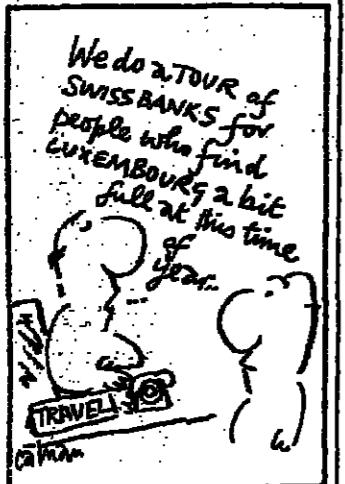
British Airways' chairman Lord King yesterday announced half-year profits up by 26 per cent. The results will be last released before the airline's privatization in February.

Pretax profits were £189 million, compared with £150 million last year. Group turnover was up from £1,397 million to £1,573 million and the state airline did well in all areas of passengers and freight. Lord King said the sale of British Telecom had been "handled brilliantly", and he would like to think BA would do as well. But there would be no perks to encourage people to fly BA, he indicated.

Kenneth Fleet, page 17

Cairo plea for Mid-East talks

Egypt has added its voice to the clamour in the Arab world for the immediate staging of a Middle East crisis conference, involving the full participation of the Soviet Union. Page 6



Pilot killed

Captain Tony Wigley, aged 44, commander of the Royal Naval Air station at Portland, Dorset, was killed yesterday when his helicopter crashed into the sea wall.

Royal visit

The Prince and Princess of Wales will make a postponed visit to Italy from April 19 to May 3 and will have an audience with the Pope.

Tanker ablaze

An Iraqi warplane fired an Exocet missile into the Cypriot-registered supertanker Minotaur in the Gulf, setting it on fire. Page 6

Test defeat

England were beaten by eight wickets in the first Test against India at Bombay. Australia appointed Allan Border as captain against West Indies in succession to Kim Hughes. Report, page 26

Leader page 15
Letter from Dr G. A. Weir, and others: Soviet prisoners, from Lord Bethell.
Leading articles: Government management; Hong Kong Features, pages 13, 14
Cyprus: Did Kammanis back the Turkish takeover? Poland's poetic memory; Roger Scruton and the real school bullies; Phillip Whitehead: Miners are citizens, not enemies; Terrorism Europe; Fashion looks at fine jewels
Obituary, page 16
Mr Edward James, Princess Constance Magogo kaDinuzulu

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NUM stays defiant but is resigned to loss of £200,000

● Miners' delegates rejected a conciliatory recommendation by the NUM executive to release £4.3 million of its funds and voted to continue defying the courts

● A Luxembourg court may be asked today to establish the receiver's right to lay claim to the £4.3 million of NUM assets in a Luxembourg bank

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Miners' leaders voted last night to continue their defiance of the law, but resigned themselves to the seizure of £200,000 from their funds to pay fines levied for contempt of the High Court.

Delegates to a special conference of the National Union of Mineworkers in London voted by 139 to 80 to boycott efforts by the receiver appointed by the court to bring back £4.3 million of the union's assets in a bank in Luxembourg.

In doing so, they overturned a recommendation by 11 votes to 6 from the NUM national executive that the union's cash should be brought back to Britain to bring the miners back into compliance with the law and recent judges' rulings.

At the end of a heated, 90-minute conference, delegates threw out the unexpectedly moderate policy proposed by their executive and endorsed a hard-line strategy put forward by Mr Jack Collins, Communist leader of the Kent pitmen.

The key section of the critical policy decision said that the conference was not prepared to permit the union's officers to give any assistance to the sequestrators or the receiver.

The Kent proposition was put as an amendment to the executive's measures and it scuttled a more conciliatory line that appeared to be emerging from the NUM and

its president, Mr Arthur Scargill.

The conference at Congress House, the TUC headquarters in Bloomsbury, had been called into emergency session to decide what to do in the wake of the High Court appointment of a receiver to run the union's financial affairs.

After a weekend of indecision, the miners' executive voted earlier yesterday to agree to the repatriation of most of its available funds from Luxembourg to Britain. The £200,000 could then be paid in the proper way and most of the union's cash might be restored to the leaders of the strike.

Mr Scargill was understood by delegates at yesterday's conference to support that view, which split the executive right across the traditional political boundaries. The Yorkshire area representatives abstained on a

vote of 139 to 80.

When it came to the delegates' vote, the following composite strategy was agreed overwhelmingly on a show of hands:

1 The NUM deplores the decision to remove the union's three trustees and to appoint a Tory Party official as receiver with total control over our funds.

2 The conference is not prepared to sanction the payment of the £200,000 fine levied against the union, although it

recognises that this latest unprecedent move by the court means the payment will be seized without our consent.

3 Conference is not prepared to "purge" this union's "contempt" and reiterates that at all times the union had acted in accordance with its rules and constitution.

4 Conference is not prepared to permit either the elected trustees or any other officers of the union to give any assistance to the sequestrators or the receiver appointed by the High Court to manage the funds and assets of this union.

5 The NUM has already asked the TUC to call an emergency meeting of the general council and asks that the General Council mobilizes industrial action to stop this most vicious threat to our history to the freedom and independence of British trade unionism.

Delegates reaffirmed their insistence that there can be no settlement of the dispute unless the coal board withdraws its pit closure programme.

NUM leaders met Mr Norman Willis, TUC general secretary, last night to explain their strategy decisions. The TUC's liaison group on the coal strike is expected to be called into session today.

Other mining news, page 2
Philip Whitehead, page 14

Luxembourg rebuffs receiver

By Frances Gibbs, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The receiver and one of the sequestrators appointed to take over the assets of the National Union of Mineworkers will today try to persuade Nobis Finanz International, the Luxembourg bank, that they have the authority to lay claim to the money deposited there.

Yesterday after being refused admittance by the bank, the two men consulted lawyers who drew up legal opinions which they said they believed "will satisfy Nobis that the receiver is now the only man who can produce an effective discharge on receipts".

If the bank is still not satisfied, the receiver will have to go to a Luxembourg court to establish the validity of his claim and seek a court order requiring the bank to hand over the £4.3 million worth of assets that last week the court ordered to be frozen.

The bank may well take the view that it is not prepared to hand over funds to a third party without the backing of a court order from Luxembourg.

The English court order under which the receiver, Mr Herbert Brewer, was appointed in place of the union's trustees is not legally binding in Luxembourg. In the same way

although there is an EEC directive in draft under which member states would agree to honour judgements delivered in courts of other member states, not all countries have yet agreed to bring in the requisite legislation so the directive cannot take effect.

If the receiver, who is acting in step with the sequestrators appointed after the union

Continued on back page, col 1

gives the coal board said there was little risk of explosion.



The driver of the van holding the sharpened rod

Metal spike hurled at coal board van

By Craig Seton

An attempted murder charge could face the men who hurled a metal rod from a bridge onto a coal board van carrying explosives yesterday, narrowly missing the driver and his mate.

Derbyshire police found a collection of missiles, including concrete posts, lumps of metal, stones, and metal railings on the bridge.

Detective Chief Insp Sandy McGillivray, who is leading the hunt for those responsible, said: "This is a very serious matter and the charge could well be attempted murder."

The driver of the van, who does not want to be identified, said: "We were a bit shocked and shaken when we remembered what had happened in Wales last week. We heard a bang and thought someone had thrown a brick at us as had happened before. We carried on and when we heard another bang we saw this spike sticking out of the roof."

The van was carrying 100lb of explosives to Renishaw Park Colliery when the attack was made from a 20ft high railway bridge above the Renishaw to Staveley road, near Chester.

found the Bhopal mortuary littered with bodies of men, women and children. Thousands of people were being ferried to hospitals in lorries, buses and cars, and tents had been erected in hospital grounds. There were hundreds of dead dogs, cats, cows and birds lying in the streets. Mrs Madhu Mishra, Professor of Home Science at Bhopal University, said she woke up at about 1am coughing violently.

"My eyes started watering and I could hardly breath, I was choking," she said.

Mrs Mishra said she and a neighbour drove towards a hill in the city. "It was gruesome, a nightmare. There were about 800,000 people on the road in the dead of night all heading for the hill." People blinded by the fumes stumbled into each other in pitch darkness.

Continued on back page, col 1

375 killed by escaping gas

By Our Foreign Staff

At least 375 people died yesterday when toxic gas leaked from a Union Carbide pesticide plant near Bhopal, capital of the central Indian state of Madhya Pradesh. As many as 20,000 more needed hospital treatment for swollen eyes, breathing difficulties. About 2,000 of them were said to be in a serious condition.

The Union Carbide managing director in India, Mr Y. P. Gokhale, said in Bombay that methyl isocyanate gas escaped when a valve in the plant's underground storage tank broke under a build-up of pressure. He said none of the plant's workers was affected by the leakage. Bhopal is about three miles from the factory.

The plant has been closed and the assistant works manager, production manager and

plant supervisor arrested. Police cordoned off Bhopal, stopping trains, planes and vehicles from entering the city of 500,000 people.

The Government in Delhi has sent medical and scientific experts to the scene of the disaster, and has ordered a judicial inquiry.

A local correspondent contacted by telephone said he

found the Bhopal mortuary littered with bodies of men, women and children. Thousands of people were being ferried to hospitals in lorries, buses and cars, and tents had been erected in hospital grounds. There were hundreds of dead dogs, cats, cows and birds lying in the streets. Mrs Madhu Mishra, Professor of Home Science at Bhopal University, said she woke up at about 1am coughing violently.

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Continued on back page, col 1

... you could be totally dependent on someone else for the rest of your life - and probably you would never even speak.

Telecom shares start trading at 45p premium

By Jonathan Davis, Business Correspondent

Shares in British Telecom made a sensational debut on the stock market yesterday, opening at a huge premium of 45p over the issue price, and immediately embroiling the Government in another political row over the pricing of the issue, the largest so far in the privatisation programme.

Mr Alan Williams, Labour spokesman on trade and industry, accused the Government of "criminal incompetence" in its handling of the issue, which he described as "the biggest giveaway in British commercial history".

Although ministers immediately mounted a spirited defence of their handling of the record-breaking £3.9 billion share sale, they are clearly bracing themselves for another protracted row over accusations that they have sold state-owned assets cheaply than it could have done.

"Five times oversubscribed and a 45p premium is not miscalculation, it is criminal incompetence", Mr Williams said.

The first official dealings in Telecom shares began simultaneously in London and New York at 3pm London time. The jobbers' and traders' pitches were immediately swamped by buyers and other traders.

The size of the opening premium was significantly higher than nearly every estimate, even among professional City analysts, and means investors are sitting on a profit equivalent, on paper at least, to nearly 90 per cent of their original investment.

The shares started changing hands at 95p in their partly-paid form - 45p above what investors have so far had to pay for them. After fluctuating in the three hours of official trading in London, they closed at 93p a share. Trading was still going on after hours last night.

The closing price of 93p is equivalent to a fully paid-up price of 173p, which compares

Two in Brinks-Mat raid jailed for 25 years

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

Two men convicted of taking part in Britain's largest robbery were each jailed yesterday for 25 years at the Central Criminal Court, leaving behind them no clue to the whereabouts of more than £26 million in gold and other precious items.

Sentencing Michael John McAvo, aged 33, and Brian Robinson, aged 41, for their part in the raid on a Brinks-Mat warehouse just over a year ago, Common Sergeant of London Judge David Tudor Price, told them there could be "no distinction between you".

The two men were told: "You and I know the sentence for this case must be very heavy." The robbery had been well planned, guards had been threatened with a petrol solution and "the haul was enormous". The sentence must be sufficient to indicate to all that robbery of this kind is not worth it," the judge said.

McAvo, a builder of Beckwith Road, East Dulwich, south-east London, said "Thank you" as he was taken from the court, but Robinson, unemployed, of Collin Street, Peckham, south-east London, was silent.

Earlier counsel for the men offered no mitigation plea.

After they had left, the judge told the court that papers on the case would be sent to Sir Thomas Hetherington, the Director of Public Prosecutions, to see if there was evidence of an attempt to pervert the course of justice by the three men who were alibi witnesses for McAvo during his defence.

Background, page 2

If you were deaf and blind...



... you could be totally dependent on someone else for the rest of your life - and probably you would never even speak.

High cost forces Britain to oppose European steps against acid rain

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

The Government will not support a European Commission directive to reduce sulphur dioxide and nitrogen oxide emissions from power stations in Britain. A meeting of European environment ministers, in Brussels on Thursday, will be told by Mr William Waldegrave that the measures would cost too much.

An explanation of the Government's decision is contained in a report to Parliament published yesterday. It is a detailed reply to criticisms of the select committee on the environment in a report on acid rain, which recommended the reduction of emissions from the Central Electricity Generating Board's coal-fired power stations.

Mr Waldegrave, Under-Secretary of State at the Department of the Environment, said estimates by the Central Electricity Generating Board showed that the installation of flue gas desulphurization (FGD) plant would cost £1,500 million; £150 million at each of 10 power stations.

The Government does not accept that discharges from sources in Britain are a main contributor to acid rain, which has killed much of the life in thousands of lakes in Scandinavia and caused destruction affecting half of the forests in West Germany.

Advisers to the Department of the Environment suggest that adoption of the measures in Britain, as West Germany and Scandinavian countries, in particular, would have made little difference to the troubles other countries face.

Indeed, yesterday's report argues that if other countries had followed the measures taken in Britain between 1970 and 1980 to reduce emissions, their acid rain problems might not be so severe.

The case Mr Waldegrave's team will put to other ministers is that the environmental protection issues differ between countries.

Acid Rain Crund 9397 (Stationery Office £3.15).

Fears over tax on pension lump sums

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Fears that the Chancellor of the Exchequer intends to tax lump sums available on retirement has caused a flurry of lobbying by the police and civil servants. There have also been anxious telephone calls to the Treasury by people who see their future threatened.

Senior police officers, who can commute part of their pensions and have some choice about when to retire, are already leaving the service.

Chief Sup Ronald West, assistant secretary of the Police Superintendents' Association, said yesterday: "We are increasingly getting information about members who are leaving the service early because they are not prepared to run the risk of having their commutation taxed."

One of those retiring early is the head of Oxford police, Chief Sup Ray Tilly, aged 50, who took over in the city only six weeks ago.

"I am not willing to take the risk," he said. Mr Tilly added:

Ship order will guarantee Belfast jobs

The Belfast shipbuilders Harland and Wolff are expected to announce today a £35-million order for a 190,000 tonnes ore carrier for the British Steel Corporation.

The revived shipyard now has its entire production capacity booked for the next two years, guaranteeing jobs for its work-force of more than 5,000 until the end of 1986.

The ship expected to be announced today will be a sister vessel to the British Steel, which was delivered to BSC at the end of October.

The Times overseas selling prices:

M25 orbital saving time and money

By Michael Bailey, Transport Editor

London's M25 orbital motorway has reduced the time taken to get across London.

In a test organized by the Freight Transport Association, a lorry made two journeys from Toddington motorway services in Bedfordshire to the A2 Dover road in Kent.

On one journey it used the M25 to get around London and on the other it went through London via Archway, Highbury and the Blackwall Tunnel.

Although using the M25 route made the 111-mile journey 18km longer it took 12 minutes less.

The 28-ton Volvo lorry also used a lot less fuel because it made 157 fewer gear changes.



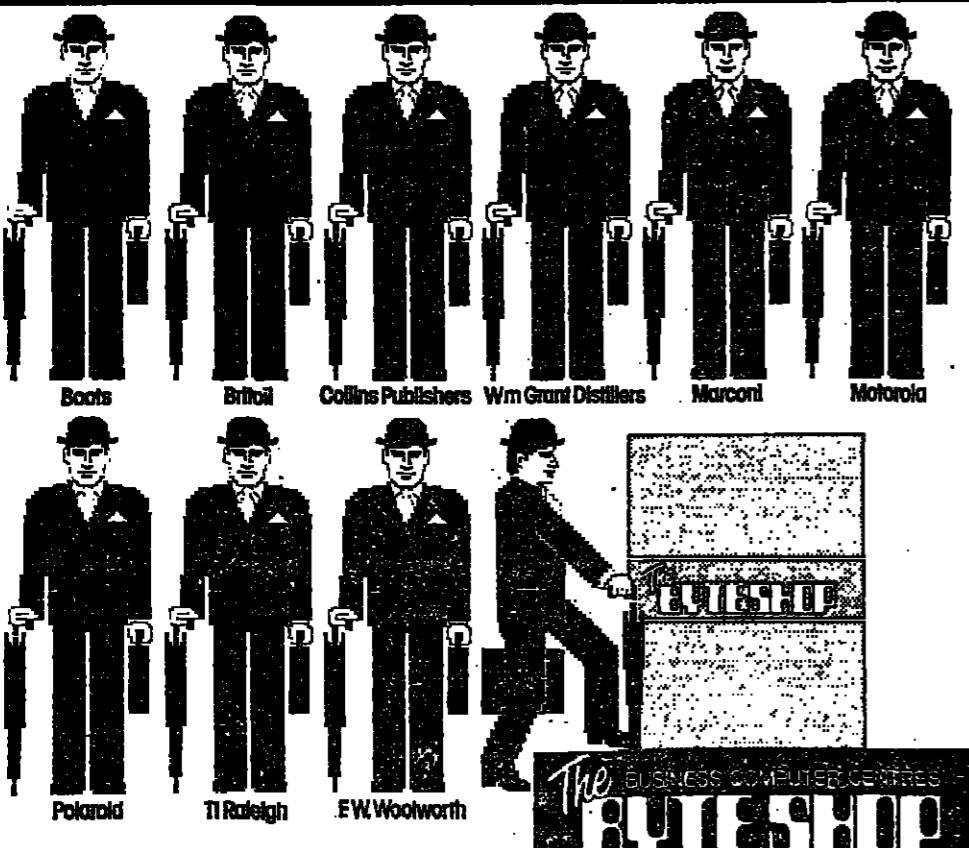
However, Mr Garry Turvey, director general of the Freight Transport Association, said that the toll at the Dartford Tunnel at the end of the M25 was causing long delays. That was a serious drawback to using the M25 orbital.

How the routes compare

| Time | 1hr 21mins | 1hr 33mins |
|----------------|------------|------------|
| Distance | 111km | 93km |
| Gear changes | 47 | 204 |
| Traffic lights | 1 | 85 |
| Crossings etc | 1 | none |
| Tolls | 1 at 21.60 | none |

Grain crisis, page 5

THE FIRST NAME BUSINESSMEN TURN TO FOR MICROCOMPUTERS



Businessmen like to look at all the options before they buy. This is why their first step for business computing is The Byte Shop. We've supplied the world's leading microcomputer systems and know how big business since 1977 - in fact we were the first UK Authorised Dealers in the UK. So we don't have to manufacture reasons why you should buy a particular system.

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Mr Dai Williams, the miner who escaped injury in Friday's tragedy, arriving at Merthyr Vale Colliery, near Aberfan, South Wales, yesterday in a car driven by Mr Jeff Tree, of City Centre Cars, the firm whose driver was killed.

Dispute in the coalfields

NUM worried union loans could dry up

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

The alarm shown by leaders of the National Union of Mineworkers at the appointment of a receiver to control their funds can be attributed to concern that a steady supply of interest-free loans from other unions may soon start to dry up.

NUM leaders are understood to have been told by unions, previously pledged to provide money to keep the union in business, that support could be withdrawn if the receiver's attempts to take authority over funds lodged abroad are successful.

Early moves by Mr Herbert Brewer, the Derbyshire solicitor appointed as receiver by the High Court, to take control of £8.9 million NUM funds, including £4.36 million resting with a Luxembourg finance house, received a setback when he was told there was not an official available to meet him.

However, Mr Brewer, and MP Brian Larkins, one of the four partners of Price Waterhouse appointed as successors of union funds, later announced that they had taken further legal advice which they believed would persuade Nobis Finanz International that the receiver was the only person

who could "produce an effective discharge on receipts".

Senior officials of unions backing the NUM became concerned last week that the prospect of a receiver taking over the union's money could mean that loans made to the miners, with the funds lodged overseas used as collateral, might not be repaid.

The frenetic activity towards the end of last week, which culminated in NUM officials, including Mr Arthur Scargill, its president, appearing in person before the High Court for the first time, raised unanswered questions as to why the officials were dropping their boycott of the courts.

Technically the union is still in contempt of court for refusing to pay a £200,000 fine, which the sequestrators are trying to secure, and Sunday night's decision by the emergency delegate conference not to purge that contempt is likely to increase the pressure from other unions, worried about repayment of loans.

Supervisely, the impact of the appointment of a receiver on the day-to-day operations of the NUM because its funds have been frozen since October 25.

Dairy quota hope rises for farmers

GLC 'best instrument of wealth redistribution'

By Hugh Clayton, Local Government Correspondent

The Greater London Council was the best instrument available to the left for redistributing wealth, according to Mr Ken Livingston, Labour leader of the council.

A speech he gave at a rally last month was yesterday quoted at length in *Marxism Today*, a monthly published by the Communist Party, as MPs began debating the Local Government Bill, which includes powers to enable ministers to abolish the GLC in 1986.

Mr Livingston said that the large rate base available to the GLC gave it far greater resources than other Labour authorities with radical policies, such as Sheffield and Liverpool city councils.

The use of institutions outside the Labour movement has enabled the GLC to build up support quickly, he went on. "We've been buying space in the media that's run by our enemies."

Grain crisis, page 5

Joseph to consider grant review

Joseph to consider grant review

By Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education

met student leaders for the first

time and gave no indication

that there might be concessions

on his proposals for student grants.

He predicted that next year

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PARLIAMENT DECEMBER 3 1984

BT Privatized

Abolition Bill

Transport questions

Workers voted with their cheque books

BT FLOTATION

The flotation of British Telecom shares was defended in the Commons by Mr Geoffrey Pattle, Minister for Information Technology, after an Opposition claim that it was the biggest giveaway in Britain's commercial history.

Mr Pattle reported that British Telecom had been successfully privatized with more than two million applications received for 1,000 million shares. Some 220,000 of all BT's workforce, more than 96 per cent of those eligible, had become shareholders in the company. Offers of shares in Canada, Japan and the United States were now taking place.

British Telecom has now been successfully privatized. I am sure that members on all sides of the House will wish to succeed to Sir George Jefferson, to BT's management and to its employees, who have shown by their commitment to the company their confidence in its future success.

Mr Pattle in reply to Mr Williams, said he remembered during the committee stage of the privatization measure that Labour MPs said nobody was going to buy the shares.

It was well known that the Opposition had two folders, one marked "rip-off" and the other marked "failure". It had taken out the "rip-off" folder today.

It was important for Britain's standing that 13.7 per cent of the shares were put on the international market, he added.

shares will receive 500 and 600 shares respectively. Applicants for higher numbers up to a maximum of 100,000 shares will receive 800 shares. No allocation will be made to applicants for over 100,000 shares. As a result of these arrangements, BT commences its role as a publicly quoted company with very substantially more shareholders than any company in this country.

The arrangements for institutional priority applicants and overseas markets are as I indicated to the House on November 16. The offer of BT shares in Canada, Japan and the United States are now taking place.

British Telecom has now been successfully privatized. I am sure that members on all sides of the House will wish to succeed to Sir George Jefferson, to BT's management and to its employees, who have shown by their commitment to the company their confidence in its future success.

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Golding: No compensation for loss of job security

Applicants for 800 and 1,200

Flashing of Pelicans to be delayed

CROSSINGS

The Department of Transport wants to give pedestrians more security at Pelican crossings by delaying the change from red to flashing amber on the motorists' signal for two seconds.

Mrs Lynda Chalker, Minister of State for Transport, told the Commons that consultation had already taken place on proposals to amend the signal phasing and other aspects of the procedure at Pelican crossings.

We have (she said) been doing further work in the light of the comments received and I hope to bring forward the necessary revised regulations shortly.

Mr Andrew Bowden (Brighton, Kemptown, C) said there were too many green men flashing for too long.

What is needed (he said) is a longer pause at the stationary position. Elsewhere people find they get about a third of the way across when the green man starts to flash and then they go back again.

Mrs Chalker: I agree, the precedence of pedestrians over vehicles during the steady flashing phase is not always understood.

Minister wants speed limit observed

MOTORWAYS

Mrs Lynda Chalker, Minister of State for Transport, appealed to motorists not to hog either the overtaking or overtaking lane on motorways if there was room on the inside. The overtaking lane, she said, should not be regarded as the fast lane.

Mrs Chalker said during question time that the Government had concluded the speed limit on motorways should stay at 70 mph. Observation was not a good idea as it should be, but raising the limit could lead to even higher speeds than are present and cause an increase in the number and severity of accidents.

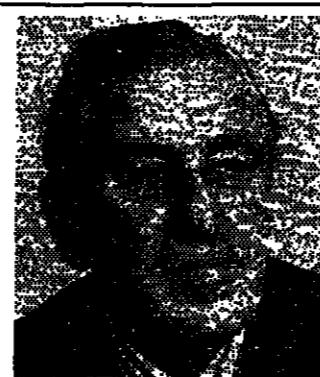
Mr David Heathcoat-Amory (Wells, C) said: Since Department of Transport figures show more than 40 per cent of cars on motorways are travelling above the speed limit, the law is being brought into disrepute.

Lorry drivers in particular must be prosecuted because they are most dangerous in creating accidents.

Mrs Chalker: The improvement in regard to lorry safety over many years, and particularly on motorways, certainly does not bear out that particular question.

If the limit is unrealistic would Mrs Chalker consider raising it? If not would she discuss with the Home Secretary ways of enforcing the present limit?

Mrs Chalker: I have said on many occasions that we would have better observance of the speed limits. Of the 40 per cent he quotes, some were only briefly over the 70 mph limit while overtaking.



Lewis: Use profits for student grants

manifolds in the improved performance of BT. Anyone who deals with them can see a comparison can see the possibility of competition from Mercury and has had a dramatic effect on customer and consumer relations because BT know that they no longer have an automatic monopoly.

Mr Michael Grylls (North-West Surrey, C): This is one of the most dramatic leaps forward in spreading real public ownership, by individual share ownership, the only effective public ownership, in the history of this country.

The fact that 184,000 employees have brought shares is a big vote of confidence in BT and is a slap in the face for the Labour Party which is again out of touch with public opinion.

Mr Pattle: Despite what the Post Office said, many applications had been rejected, one instead of using the word "Yes" some had put a tick in the box, clearly showing whether they wanted share options or vouchers.

He asks for an assurance that those would not be rejected as incorrect applications.

Mr Pattle: I cannot give that assurance. Applications have been strictly assessed and scrutinized. I have looked again at the way applications were listed and the criteria set and if people were listed on the outside, the way they filled in, they should not have made those mistakes.

Mr John Golding (Newcastle-under-Lyme, Lab): The test will be, whether employees take free shares or apply for them, but whether they keep them or sell them at the first possible opportunity.

They also feel that this offer of money for nothing, no compensation for loss of job security which they will suffer by privatization.

Mr Pattle: Individual retail subscribers asked to put a yes in the "vouchers box" or for share bonuses.

The vast majority have opted for free options which are not available for three years so they must think they will be staying with the offer.

Mr William Hamilton (Central Fife, Lab): Will the minister take steps to go to City institutions which have engaged in this casino-like exercise.

How many of the three or four million people on the dole had applied? Some 50 million people who had been shareholders no longer were. What advantages were there for the consumer?

Mr Pattle: The advantage to the consumer is already becoming

a massive gesture of defiance to the Labour Party.

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The Dublin summit

Kohl backs Thatcher as wrangle starts over EEC enlargement

From Ian Murray, Dublin

Protected by an anti-terrorist screen round Dublin Castle, the 10 leaders of the EEC yesterday fought over the conditions for Europe's two newest democracies to join the Community.

By this evening they are meant to have found a way to drain the EEC's wine lake, smoothed the way of Spain and Portugal into the Community by 1986, settled the British budget problem once and for all, agreed on the economic and social situation, prepared a common position towards the second Reagan Administration-plotted European union and taken steps to stop famine in Africa.

It is an ambitious programme and Dr Garret Fitzgerald, the Prime Minister of the Irish Republic, is already smarting from criticism from an American journalist that he has ill-prepared this summit and that failure is inevitable. His personal spokesman described the charge angrily as "a load of rubbish" but could not deny the negotiating enormity of the task ahead.

Dr Fitzgerald was also running a poor second best to Mrs Thatcher in grabbing everyone's attention. For security reasons, she alone travelled by helicopter from the airport to the lunch with Mr Patrick Hillery, the Irish President, and then into the old exercise yard of Dublin Castle, for the

meeting. Even inside the castle's fastness she was exposed to any terrorist attempt for a mere 25 yards.

The other heads of government drove in a fleet of Mercedes from the President's palace to the castle through the roadblocks and massed ranks of police in the city centre.

Terrorism was one subject on the agenda of the Foreign Ministers at the summit, "but", said an official, "the less you hear about it, the more you can assume they have agreed".

There was a hint from the Irish spokesman of how forthcoming the final statements might be. Although Mrs Thatcher had been seen stepping from a brown RAF Westland Wessex into the castle yard, he would go no further than to say that if journalists thought someone had been seen arriving by helicopter they were entitled to think so.

Perhaps because the main subject under discussion was wine, Mrs Thatcher was wearing an outfit described by her spokesman as "claret". Like the other leaders she had to immerse herself in the subject from the beginning, with a study of a new paper of compromises put together by Dr Fitzgerald after his weekend visits to Paris and Rome.

The paper was remarkably similar to previous ones, insisting on a method of obligatory

distillation for surplus production - a formula which has so far run into total Italian opposition. The best hope was that the kind of intense political pressure obtainable only at summit would be sufficient to force a breakthrough.

Over dinner last night Dr Fitzgerald meant to move the subject away from the excesses of the past towards the possibilities of the future. In a discussion on the special report on European union he was to sound out how far down the road to integration the other countries were prepared to go.

Mrs Thatcher, braced with the Danes and the Greeks as being in opposition to the ideas, was to insist that it would be better to get on with completing the Common Market they all belonged to, rather than to talk about new treaties.

Earlier in the debate on economic policy, she had pressed a similar argument. She was not impressed by an appeal from Dr Fitzgerald for a common refutation. National economies had to be put right nationally, she said, and the Community could help by opening internal borders, harmonizing standards and integrating new technology.

There was broad support for this approach from Herr Helmut Kohl, the West German Chancellor. "We are being outgunned," he said.

Wave of hope: Mr Herbert Blaize, New National Party leader, waves leaving home on Carriacou island before polling yesterday in Grenada's first election since 1976. Voting was calm under the eyes of US officials and Caribbean troops who invaded in October 1983.

Diplomatic pressure in the Middle East

Cairo joins chorus for crisis conference

From Christopher Walker
Cairo

Egypt yesterday added its considerable weight to the growing call in the Arab world for the immediate staging of an international conference on the Middle East, which would involve the full participation of the Soviet Union.

The unexpected move - regarded as a significant change in the bargaining stance of the largest Arab country - came in a strongly-worded joint communiqué issued at the close of the three-day visit here by King Husain of Jordan, his first since Egypt signed its peace treaty with Israel.

The addition of Egypt to the list of those nations demanding an international conference was seen as leading to a possible expanded role for Moscow in Middle East diplomacy after years of American dominance.

Although successive Israeli governments have flatly rejected Jordanian demands for such a conference under United Nations auspices, the Egyptian move was thought likely to increase pressure on the United States, either to change its opposition to a conference or to come forward with a new peace initiative of its own.

Yesterdays' communiqué confirmed Egyptian and Jordanian support for the Palestine Liberation Organization as the

sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and spoke of the organization being granted a role in determining a future for the Palestinians "as they see fit".

The careful language was interpreted as a significant departure from the terms of the Camp David accords which gave no role to the PLO. It followed news that the PLO chairman, Mr Yassir Arafat, is soon to make an official visit here.

Mr Kamal Hassan Ali, the Egyptian Prime Minister, was later asked whether the communiqué and Cairo's endorsement of the five-point peace plan proposed at last week's meeting of the Palestine National Council meant Egypt no longer respected the Camp David accords. "We respect Camp David and respect our signature on it, but with our own interpretation on it", he replied.

There was a suggestion among Arab sources that Egypt's switch might open the way to a long-term reconciliation with Syria. President Assad is also a strong supporter of an international forum with the participation of the Soviet Union, one of the permanent members of the UN Security Council.

Senior aides of President Mubarak went out of their way

yesterday to deny suggestions that another Arab state - Syria or Libya - had planned to launch an air attack against Parliament when it was being addressed by the Jordanian monarch on Sunday.

The reports, on the front page of the semi-official *Al Ahram*, reawakened fears here of an armed clash with Libya.

President Mubarak's decision to drop his earlier scepticism about an international conference was taken as cementing the formation of an alliance of conservative Arab states willing to promote talks with Israel over the occupied West Bank.

The joint communiqué published soon after King Husain's departure for Amman, said in its key paragraph: "The two sides agreed on the importance of convening an international peace conference under the supervision of the UN, in which all parties concerned, including the PLO, would participate."

There have been repeated reports from official sources that King Husain will soon pay an official visit to Moscow. American diplomats in Amman are worried that he might be weakening the pro-Western stance of his policy.

The Israeli spokesman, Colonel Yona Gazi, welcomed the move. "We are glad that the Lebanese delegation responded to our many requests to deal with military matters."

Reagan turns to Africa amid anti-Pretoria mood

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

President Reagan yesterday diverted his attention from arms control talks and the debate over the federal budget to the problems of racial unrest and starvation in Africa.

He met Mr Chester Crocker, Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, who briefed him on Namibia and the continuing turmoil inside South Africa.

Later, the President saw members of congressional delegations which has just returned from a fact-finding tour of Ethiopia. The meetings followed growing demonstrations in the United States against Pretoria's racial policies and the Reagan Administration's "constructive engagement" with South Africa.

Protests, which have held every day outside the South African Embassy here since November 21, spread to consul-

ates and commercial offices in other parts of the country.

Sixteen people, including five black congressmen, have deliberately got themselves arrested outside the Embassy as part of an orchestrated attempt to focus the public's attention on the situation.

On Sunday, Bishop Desmond Tutu, the Nobel peace laureate, praised the protesters in a sermon he delivered at Washington's Anglican cathedral. "Whatever you do to protest this evil system does not go without notice among those for whom it has been done."

Sensitive to criticisms that the Reagan Administration is far too lenient with South Africa, Mr Crocker sought to demonstrate that "constructive engagement" had achieved positive results for black South Africans.

Hammer to talk with Chernenko

Moscow (Reuters) - Mr Armand Hammer, aged 86, head of Occidental Petroleum, will meet President Chernenko today to try to arrange regular meetings between US and Soviet leaders.

Mr Hammer, who has met every Kremlin leader except President Andropov, yesterday visited the US Ambassador to Moscow, Mr Arthur Hartman.

Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, the Kremlin second-in-command, discussed US-Soviet trade and economic links yesterday with Mr Dwayne Andreas, an American businessman.

Kabul replaces defence chief

Islamabad (Reuters) President Bhakar Karmal named the Army Chief of Staff, Brigadier General Nazar Mohammad, as defence minister, replacing Lieutenant-General Abdul Qadir, Kabul Radio reported.

A Revolutionary Council announcement said General Qadir, who became defence minister in September 1982, had been appointed a vice-chairman of the Revolutionary Council Praesidium headed by Mr Karmal.

Poison gift for journalists

Paris (AFP) - Greenpeace sent bottles of deadly poison as an unusual present to 30 journalists, the French environment Ministry and the British Embassy here.

Each bottle contained two litres of titanium dioxide, which it said industry pours daily into the North Sea, English Channel and the Seine.

Moro review

Rome - A heavily guarded appeals court began reviewing the sentences handed out last year to 63 Red Brigades guerrillas convicted of kidnapping and killing in 1978 Aldo Moro, the Christian Democrat leader. Half the defendants are serving life terms.

Mafia revenge

Palermo (Reuters) - A former Mafia member who turned police informer in 1972 in a case after being shot by two men outside his home. His mother and sister, returning from church with him, were wounded.

25 executed

Tehran (Reuters) - Twenty-five drug smugglers and dealers were hanged at dawn in Tehran's Ocar Prison, Tehran radio reported.

Blowfly blow

Sydney (Reuters) - Five million mutant flies are being set free in Australia to control sheep blowfly, which costs graziers £100 million a year. It is hoped the blowfly, which mate only once, will mix with the genetically altered variety and their offspring die.

Correction

The Attorney-General of Australia is Senator Gareth Evans, not Mr Ian Temby, as stated on November 28. Mr Temby is the Federal Director of Public Prosecutions.



Giving thanks: Bishop Tutu delivering his Washington sermon in which he expressed gratitude to those protesting against Pretoria's 'evil and immoral' policies. Sixteen people, including five congressmen, have been arrested outside the South African Embassy.

Sri Lanka violence toll tops 270

From Our Correspondent
Colombo

Twenty suspected Tamil separatists held in an army camp were shot dead in an attempted breakout, official sources said yesterday as the death toll in two weeks of ethnic-related violence in Sri Lanka rose to more than 270.

The escape attempt on Sunday at the Vavuniya camp, about 160 miles north of Colombo, came as militants opened fire on the post, killing a sentry and wounding two soldiers, according to a radio report. Officials said four prisoners escaped into the

surrounding jungle in the northern province of Jaffna, where authorities have been arming non-Tamils civilians to fight off any new raids.

The Government denied reports that 13 separatists had also been killed in two separate battles near Vavuniya, and one sentry was shot dead by a sniper.

The latest official reports brought to 277 the number of people reported killed since mid-November.

● BERNE: The Swiss Government insisted yesterday that about 1500 Tamil separatists who are seeking asylum would be returned eventually to Sri Lanka, but for the time being no one would be sent home (AP reports).

Stockholm talks may be at turning point

Stockholm (Reuters) - The 35-country European Disarmament Conference agreed yesterday on a new working structure which delegates from all sides said it would enable it to begin serious negotiations on reducing the risk of war in Europe.

This could be a 'turning point', the US ambassador to Stockholm, Mr James Goodby, said in a written statement. The Soviet Ambassador, Mr Oleg Grinevsky, agreed it will certainly contribute to a more favourable international climate.



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Joe McGehee

Labour split as Hawke and Hayden differ over poll failure

From Our Correspondent, Melbourne

Australia's Labour Government which it would be wise to recognize.

Earlier this year, Mr Hayden formed a centre-left faction within the party which some commentators saw as a possible future threat to Mr Hawke.

The number of invalid votes was nearly three times the previous highest figure. Mr Mick Young, the special Minister for State responsible for electoral matters, said he believed a majority of these were intended for Labour.

Many blame the voting system introduced for the Senate. Under the procedure, instead of filling in every square on the Senate ballot paper, voters were invited to put a figure 1 in a box above the Senate team of their choice.

The system was widely publicized on television and in newspapers, but many took to mean that the same procedure could be followed for the House of Representatives.

Voters were, in fact, required to fill in every box on the ballot paper.

Mr Bob Hawke, Australia's Prime Minister, said he was satisfied that the majority of the abnormally high number of invalid votes cast, 6.9 per cent of the total, had been intended for Labour. In the previous Parliament, Labour had a 23-seat majority, which is likely to fall by as many as 10 seats after Saturday's poll.

Mr Bill Hayden, the Foreign Minister, did not agree with Mr Hawke. He said invalid votes were not the only reason. "To argue that that's all there is in this problem is to start erecting an alibi with much shelling around it," Mr Hayden said.

He described the result as dreadful and a failure. After meeting Mr Hawke yesterday, he said: "I have quite willingly undertaken to make no further such comment. But I made it very clear to the Prime Minister there is no way in the world in which I withdraw."

It seemed that Labour voters were almost exclusively vulnerable to making mistakes and that the really bright voters voted for the Liberal Party, Mr Hayden said. He could not accept that. Saturday's result should serve as a warning to the

Kenya: Maina Wa Kinyatti

By Caroline Moorehead

A senior lecturer in history at Kenyatta University College, known in particular for his writings on the Mau Mau movement, is serving a six-year prison sentence for possessing "seditious literature". Maina Wa Kinyatti's arrest, in the summer of 1982, at a moment when the university was being consciously purged of "foreign ideologies", was rapidly followed by the arrest and imprisonment of five other lecturers.

By 1982 Kenyatta University

College, made autonomous in 1970, had become a centre for political opposition among students and lecturers. On several occasions, after student demonstrations supporting nationalist ideals and freedom of speech, the Government had shut the university.

In the sixties Maina Wa Kinyatti won a scholarship to a high school in the United States and later received an MA from Michigan State University, where he helped to set up an African studies curriculum, before becoming a lecturer at City University in New York. In 1975 he joined the history department at Kenyatta University College, earning a reputation for his articles on Kenyan politics and sociology.

Kamiti prison in Nairobi, where he is now held, is notorious for its poor conditions: fleas and lice are endemic, a bright light is kept permanently on and visits are restricted to five minutes.

Maina Wa Kinyatti: Six-year sentence

Filipinos reprimanded

From Keith Dalton, Manila

The Roman Catholic Primate of the Philippines, Cardinal Jaime Sin, yesterday admonished Filipinos who hoped President Ferdinand Marcos would be ill and even wished he died.

It was "terrifying" to think that most Filipinos were disappointed that Mr Marcos was not dead, Cardinal Sin said.

Mr Marcos disappeared from public view three weeks ago. He has not made a public appearance since then, although he has

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Aftermath: Bomb disposal experts examine the wrecked embassy car after their colleague's death

Athens bomb kills disposal expert

From Mario Modiano, Athens

A Greek bomb disposal expert was killed yesterday while trying to defuse one of the explosive devices planted in four Iraqi Embassy cars in Athens.

Later the police decided to take no further risks and detonated the other three devices by remote control. Two of them were under vehicles parked outside the embassy in the residential district of Psychiko, without causing casualties. Last week an Arab was arrested at the Greek-Yugoslav border on suspicion of being the unknown assailant who tried to shoot at the Jordanian Minister in Psychiko.

The outrages coincided with recent bomb attacks against Greek targets. Large quantities of explosive were discovered and defused in time during an opposition rally in Athens last Saturday.

On November 22 six bombs exploded

within minutes of each other in the centre of the capital, causing damage to shops and offices. An unknown organization calling itself November 21 claimed responsibility.

Since then between 50 and 60 bomb hoaxes have been telephoned to the police daily, keeping the authorities alert and maintaining a climate of anxiety.

The latest bomb scare was at Athens airport yesterday just before the arrival of Mr Jean-Marie Le Pen, leader of the French national front, who is chairing a meeting in Athens of the right-wing group in the European Parliament.

Spectrum, page 13

Greeks help Albania to open window on the outside world

From Our Own Correspondent, Athens

Greece is taking the edge off its disputes with Albania in order to help this isolated and fiercely independent Communist neighbour to open a window on the outside world.

Mr Karolos Papoulias, the Greek Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, left for Tirana yesterday on the first purely diplomatic visit at Cabinet level since the two countries resumed diplomatic relations in 1971.

Albania, which is obsessed by fears about the designs of its neighbours, particularly Yugoslavia, has welcomed the renunciation by Greece last February of its irredentist claims on Albania's territory. This has opened the way for closer relations.

Greek analysts believe that Mr Enver Hoxha, Albania's ageing leader, who has been at the helm for the past 40 years, wants his country to be able to fall back, if need be, on reliable, friendly neighbours like Greece and Italy.

One reason is that Albania's dogged isolation and its policy of self-sufficiency since the break with the Soviet Union in 1961 and China in 1977, are now reflected in slowing economic development for lack of foreign technology.

Besides, Mr Hoxha is trying to ensure his own succession in a way that will safeguard the country's independence.

The man Mr Hoxha seems to be grooming for succession is Mr Ramiz Alia, aged 60, a

member of the ruling party's Central Committee for the past 32 years and head of state since October 1982.

Mr Papoulias, who expects to meet the Albanian leaders, was due to cross the Greek-Albanian frontier at Kakavitsa, on the main highway linking the two countries, which was opened by the Albanians last June for the first time in 40 years - but for official visitors only.

The road leads to Tirana, the centre of the Greek-speaking region of southern Albania where a large Greek minority lives. It is the protection of the human rights of this minority that is, according to the Athens government, its main concern today.

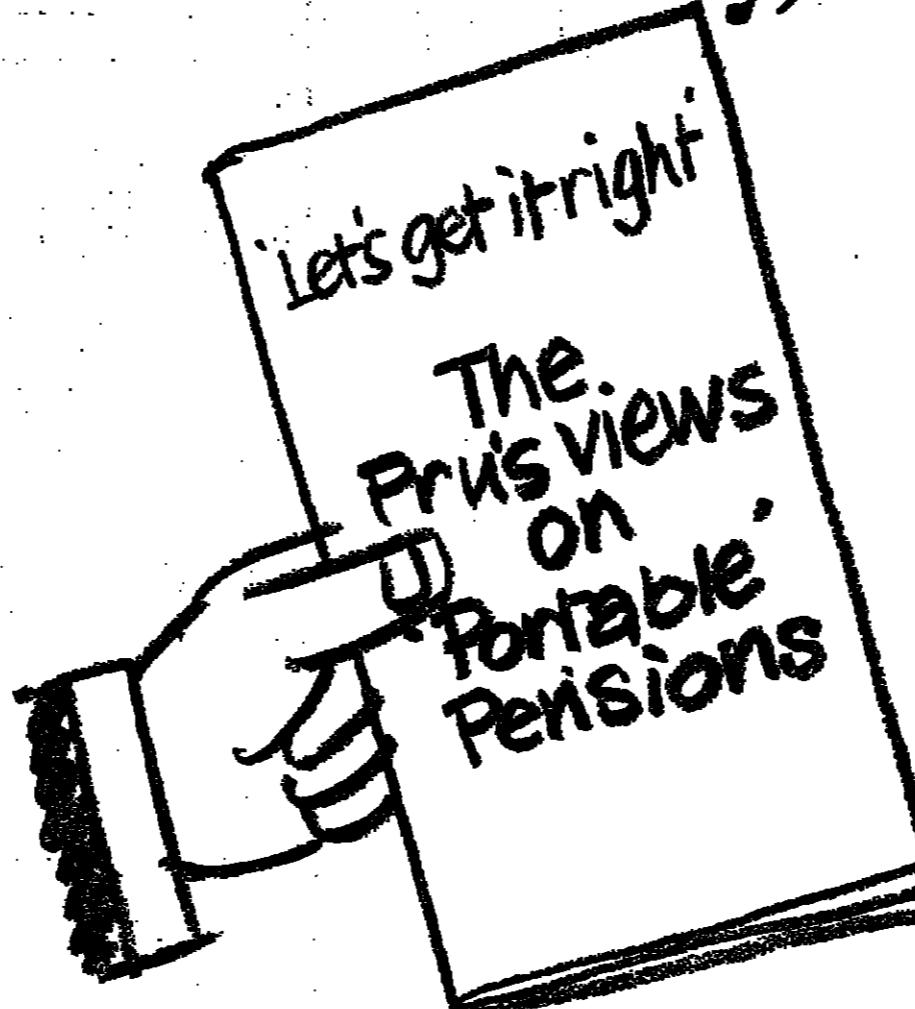
The Greek minority, whose size is variously estimated at between 100,000 and 400,000, depending on the source, have their own primary schools and Greek-language newspapers. But their living conditions, like those of the rest of the people, are squalid.

During Mr Papoulias's visit he is expected to sign a series of agreements as a result of which the number of Greek teachers available for minority schools would increase, and the Kalkavia Road would open to non-official traffic.

In return, the Albanians expect Greece to rescind the state or war that Greek governments have claimed has existed between the two countries since 1940 when Italy invaded Greece

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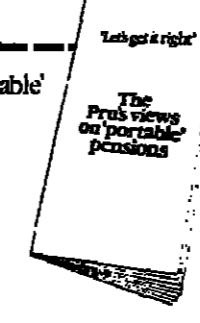
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polling yesterday in Greece

October 1983

Hammer to talk with Chernenko

Armand Hammer, president of Occidental Petroleum, will meet Leonid Brezhnev today to try to arrange a meeting between US and Soviet leaders.

Mr Hammer, who has been President Carter's chief negotiator in talks with Moscow, Mr Ronald Reagan's Mr Michael Deaver, Chernenko's spokesman, discussed US-Soviet trade, economic and political issues.

Mr Deaver said: "There is

Kabul replaces defence chief

Islamabad, October 30. Armand Hammer, president of Occidental Petroleum, has been appointed to succeed General Mohammad Nabiullah as defence minister in Kabul.

Poison gift for journalists

Washington, October 30. A poison-laced cigarette was sent to a US newspaper reporter in New York, it was reported yesterday.

Moro review

Brussels, October 30. The secretary general of the European Commission, Sir James Dugdale, has accepted a review of the handling of the Moro kidnapping case by the European Commission.

25 executed

Baguio, October 30. Twenty-five members of the New People's Army, the Marxist-Leninist guerrilla group, were executed yesterday.

Blow fly blow

London, October 30. A blow fly has been found in a bottle of perfume given to Princess Diana by Prince Charles.

Correction

London, October 30. A correction to a story in yesterday's Times said that the name of the author of the book "The Last Days of the Romanovs" is Robert Service, not Robert Servis.

Singapore

Singapore, October 30. Singapore's airline, Air Canada, has announced that it will be flying to Singapore from December 1.

Air Canada

Singapore

Financier smiles as bankruptcy trial opens

Sindona faces first Italian court

From Peter Nichols

Rome
Cries of "Michele, Michele!" from photographers hoping for a dramatic shot of Michele Sindona yesterday marked the entry of the famous criminal bankrupt, alleged accessory to murder and former financial adviser to the Vatican into the Milan courtroom where for the first time he faces criminal proceedings in his own country.

Sindona has been tried in the United States and sent to prison for 25 years by a Manhattan court. He is in Italy because modifications in the extradition treaty between the two countries allow condemned criminals to be "borrowed" to stand trial in Italy even if they have not completed the sentence imposed in the US.

Sindona was smiling and elegant in a black suit, frequently consulting his defence counsel during the opening exchanges.

He faces two sets of charges in Italy. The first arises from the collapse of his banks in 1974 when he was declared bankrupt. The second involves his alleged part in instigating the murder of Giorgio Ambrosoli, the liquidator of the banks, who was shot in July 1979.

The Italian-American killer held responsible for Ambrosoli's death has since himself died, while, so it is said, escaping from an American prison. The second Sindona trial is due early next year; an adjournment was allowed yesterday to December 12 to allow the defence more time on the banking charges.

Interest in Sindona goes far beyond the technicalities of bankruptcy or even final confirmation of who was behind the death of the highly-respected Ambrosoli.

Throughout his career, from a comparatively obscure beginning in the north-eastern Sicilian town of Patti, where he was born in 1920, he thrived ahead with the help of associates in the political as well as the economic world.

His name was in the lists of



Behind bars: Michele Sindona, the Sicilian financier, in court in Milan yesterday.

the now banned Masonic lodge P2, which brought together in an atmosphere of conspiracy such personalities as the former heads of the secret services of the armed forces, politicians, journalists and Sindona's best-known friend in the banking world, Roberto Calvi, then head of the Banco Ambrosiano, who died hanging under Blackfriars Bridge in London in the summer of 1982. Calvi, like Sindona, had been a close associate of the Vatican Bank.

So far there is little indication whether Sindona is preparing to

try to implicate eminent people in public life or whether he proposes a technical defence on the bankruptcy charges. He is said to have made hundreds of pages of notes in his own defence during his two months of solitary confinement in a special wing of the women's prison at Boghera, near Milan.

The principal energies of his defending counsel so far have been aimed at winning a postponement of hearings on the ground that they have not had time enough, especially as some of the documentation is in

English. They also ask the court to delay the bankruptcy charges so that they may be combined in the same hearing as the Ambrosoli charges.

Sindona is understood to have written to the court objecting to the fact that he is being tried by the same judges who in July passed sentence on 22 of his associates.

This plea appears to have been ignored. The other two were rejected, though the court allowed an adjournment to December 12 to give the defence more time.

Solidarity in quandary over poll decision

From Roger Boyes
Warsaw

Despite the political tension caused by the murder of Solidarity priest Father Jerzy Popieluszko, the Polish authorities yesterday committed themselves to holding parliamentary elections within the next year.

The Sejm the Polish Parliament, unanimously approved a short Bill dissolving Parliament on August 31, 1985. Under the constitution that means the Government will have to set a date for the elections before July 31 and they will have to be held before the end of October.

Although the Sejm is dominated by members of the Communist Party or affiliated groupings, it does not always behave in the manner of "rubber stamp" chambers in the rest of the Soviet block. The authorities have also been considering ways in which the Sejm could become more representative, including new possibilities for independent deputies.

The Solidarity opposition, which called for a boycott of local council elections, has been wondering whether to change its strategy ahead of the parliamentary vote. At least a few key Solidarity plotters think that it may be possible to put a substantial and genuinely independent Catholic representation in the Sejm.

The murder of Father Popieluszko more than six weeks ago continues to haunt church-state relations and indeed most of day-to-day politics. Other priests who have been beaten or tortured are now coming forward. One said he was recently assaulted by two masked men, tied to his bed, pricked with a bayonet and burned with cigarettes.

Solidarity is convinced that vendetta squads have been operating in many parts of Poland. In at least one instance, in the Torun area, it is sure that policemen were active in the squads.

French Communist hardliners challenged by militant

From Diana Geddes, Paris
the most part a prisoner of that dogma," he wrote.

"It pretends not to know about the profound movement of questioning and discontent among the mass of party members and militants to whom the leadership intends only to concede the right to 'enrich' the text [of the draft resolution for the party congress] proposed by party headquarters."

Members were being refused their right either to reject policies which had led to defeat or to elect new leaders. The present leaders totally rejected any self-criticism.

"The fight for a new and truly democratic functioning of the party is now the most important item on the agenda," M Ooghe said.

Some Communists felt that the so-called "reformist" movement within the party has come too late, however. "What is happening now is more serious than anything that has happened in the past 40 years. I believe the party is in the process of committing suicide," one senior Communist, who

sought for his identity not to be revealed, said in an interview.

"In my view, there are three possible scenarios confronting the party. It could evolve into an Italian-style Eurocommunist party, which I think unlikely. It could undergo a split, like the Spanish Communist Party. Or it could continue to eschew radical change and pursue its decline into a small, impotent, militant hard case, like the British Communist Party."

"It is just possible that the reformists will succeed in carrying out not a cultural revolution, as Rocard [a former Communist minister] has called for, but perhaps a cultural evolution. But it won't be soon enough. The party will have already gone into an irreversible decline. I think that the hardliners will keep the upper hand and Georges Marchais will remain as general secretary."

• HELSINKI Finland's Communist Party has lurched closer to a final split, with a move by its Eurocommunist majority wing to wrest local control from Stalinist hardliners (Reuter reports).

Russians drag heels on Barents treaty

From Ulf Andenaes, Oslo

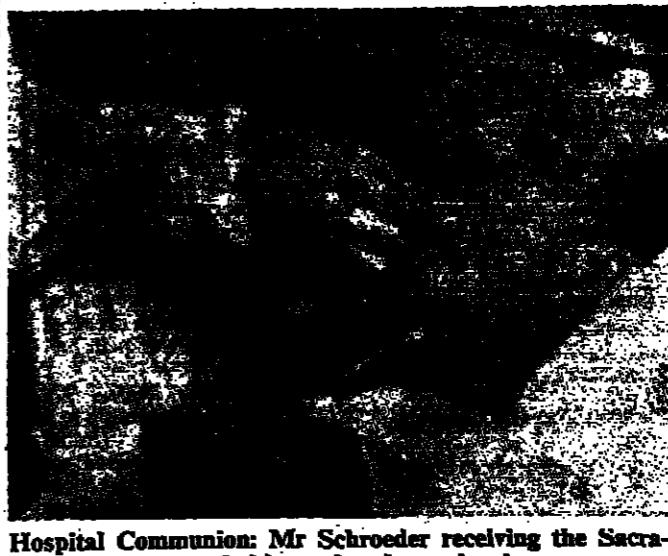
Norway and the Soviet Union resumed negotiations here yesterday over the issue of the Continental Shelf in the Arctic, trying to decide on a dividing line between the economic zones of the two countries.

No easy deal is expected. The disputed waters consist of 60,000 square miles in the Barents Sea off the sensitive peninsula of Kola, where the Russians have a formidable military presence in the Murmansk region. The area is believed to be rich in oil resources.

Norway adheres to the principle that the shelf should be divided by the median line between the Norwegian island of Spitsbergen and the Soviet island of Novaya Zemlya.

Moscow, however, says the division should be made according to what it calls the sector principle, from the Soviet-Norway land border in a straight line towards the North Pole. It is accepted that oil exploration should not take place until an agreement is reached.

Norway is willing to accept a compromise to eliminate the uncertainties, but the Russians appear to be in no hurry.



Hospital Communion: Mr Schroeder receiving the Sacrament in his ward at the weekend.

Mechanical heart man feeling no pain

From Trevor Fishlock, New York

Mr William Schroeder said yesterday that his steel and plastic heart was pumping "just like an old-time thrashing machine".

In a television interview conducted by Dr William Devries, the surgeon who implanted the 10 ounce pump nine days ago, Mr Schroeder was cheerful and said he had no pain or discomfort.

Mr Schroeder, who is 52, was dying of heart disease before the pump was implanted. Yesterday he said his goal was to be the same as he was at 40, and he felt he could live 10 more years. "I really feel I could get out of here, go fishing and watch ball games. Before the operation I could barely make it in and out of the

house. I was getting weaker and weaker."

He was sitting up in bed in the Humana Hospital in Louisville, Kentucky. His doctors said he was "ahead of schedule" and his condition has been upgraded from critical to serious.

On Sunday he spent three hours on the portable, 114lb compressor which is intended to give him mobility. The machine drives his pump by way of air tubes through the abdomen. Normally he is connected to a 323lb compressor.

Mr Schroeder is being watched carefully for signs of infection. Being a diabetic he is more susceptible to infection.

Asian neighbours broaden defence pact

Jakarta — Indonesia and Malaysia signed a revised security accord yesterday which for the first time encompasses the two countries' navies and air forces as well as ground troops.

Benny Murdani and Malaysia's Deputy Prime Minister, Datuk Musa Hitam, who signed the new accord in the Javanese town of Jogjakarta, said communism was now only one of the problems faced.



CHINA FUR & LEATHER GARMENTS FAIR

will be held in Beijing from Jan 7, 1985 to Jan 14, 1985

All Businessmen from Trade Circles Abroad are Welcome

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China National Native Produce & Animal By-Products Import & Export Corporation

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Cable: Chinanbu Beijing

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You may not have heard about it yet.

But many local authorities have found a way of splashing out far less on their heating.

This is due to two recent developments.

One. In late 1983 supplies of gas became more available.

So councils using other fuels could at last turn to gas.

Two. The latest gas heating equipment is getting more fuel-efficient.

The City of Birmingham changed to gas to provide space and water heating for their Great Barr public swimming baths.

Now their fuel bill is at least 30% lower.

West Lancashire District Council were already using gas to heat the Park Pool at Ormskirk and the Nye Bevan Pool in Skelmersdale.

By fitting a gas engine-driven generator at each pool, consumption of bought-in electricity was reduced by 70%. These installations together with new heat recovery equipment, cut gas consumption by 50%.

And there are similar savings being made by local authorities up and down the country.

Whether they're heating sports centres, conference centres, schools, town halls or hospitals.

If you'd like to know what the use of gas could do for your council undertakings, both existing and prospective, contact Commercial Sales at your British Gas region.

We'll help you by answering both your current and future fuel requirements. We'll also advise you on what equipment best suits those needs.

You'll be pleasantly surprised how quickly the resultant savings will pay for the cost of the new installation.

Unless of course you enjoy the sinking feeling that comes with a heavy heating bill!

Gas

GAS IS WONDERFUEL

JP 11/61 150

The Indian election

United Congress faces opposition split as 5,000 battle for seats

From Michael Hamlyn
Delhi

The Indian general election campaign began in earnest this week as more than 5,000 candidates battle for seats in the 542-member lower house of Parliament, the Lok Sabha or People's Assembly.

On the three days of polling only 513 seats will be contested: the 13 contests in Punjab and the 14 in Assam have been put off indefinitely because of the political troubles there.

One candidate has had a walkover in the single constituency in the union territory of Mizoram, and Congress (I) thus had its first victory.

In one further seat, the Lakshadweep region of Jammu and Kashmir, polling has been postponed until June.

Polling will take place in 12 states and six union territories on December 24. Two states and two union territories will poll on December 27. Four major states will poll on both days, including the one with most seats, Uttar Pradesh. Two states, Meghalaya and Nagaland, in the far mountainous north-east, have their election on December 28.

Counting will not start before December 28.

The ruling party, Congress (I) (for India), is fighting for re-election with an overall majority over the other parties. It is the only party which will fight in every region of every state, though agreements with allies in some regions mean it will not contest about 18 constituencies.

The opposition, fragmented into 38 registered parties and countless unregistered ones, has lessened its chances by failing to agree on joint candidates.

The seven parties recognized as national parties are:

Indian National Congress: The old Congress Party split a number of times after Mrs Gandhi became Prime Minister in 1967.

After her death her son Rajiv, the new Prime Minister, was unanimously elected president of the party, which won 352 seats in the 1980 election (holds 339 at present).

Jana Sangh: After Mrs Gandhi abandoned the Emergency in 1977 and called elections, the Janata (or People's) Party was put together from six main opposition groups, including former Congress members: the Socialist Party, the Jana Sangh, a pro-Hindu rightist party, and the Lok Dal, itself a combination of smaller parties with a predominantly agricultural base in the Hindi belt, led by Chowdhury Charan Singh.

The government formed by Janata proved unstable and the party split, leaving a rump consisting mainly of some former Congress "young turks" and the Socialist Party. The party president is former "young turk" Mr Chandra Shekhar. In 1980 the party, when it still contained Jana Sangh, won only 31 seats (now has 21).

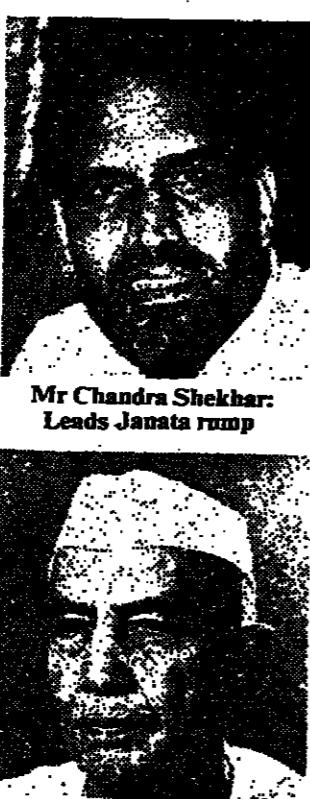
Bharatiya Janata Party: After the 1980 debacle the Jana Sangh faction broke away and formed the BJP (Bharatiya Janata). The party, led by Mr Atal Behari Vajpayee, still has the support of Hindu chauvinism in the country; the growth of pro-Hindu sentiment has considerably enhanced its electoral chances (16 seats).

Communist Party of India (Marxist): The Indian Communist Party split in 1964, with one group taking a more left-leaning pro-Chinese line while the other remained steadily pro-Soviet. The pro-Chinese group added (Marxist) to its title, and has become the dominant of the two factions. It leads the left front coalitions in power in West Bengal and Tripura, and is the principal party in Kerala's left democratic front.

The party is led by a moderate, Mr E. M. S. Namboodiripad, a Kerala Brahmin who was the first Communist chief minister there. In fact the party's recent success in Bengal has depended on its ability to turn itself into a strongly regional party. The Maoists have split off again, creating the Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) (36 seats).

Communist Party of India: The pro-Soviet stance of the CPI has led it into coalitions with

the ruling Congress parties in some states, but it has at present co-ordinated all its contests with the CPI (M). The leader is Mr. Rajeshwar Rao, who has resisted heavy Soviet pressure to support Congress (I) even at risk of splitting his own party (13 seats).

Mr Chandra Shekhar:
Leads Janata rumpChowdhury Charan Singh:
Former Prime Minister

R. Lok Dal: Chowdhury Charan Singh split from the Janata Government allegedly because of the Hindu nationalist slant of the Jana Sangh faction, and became Prime Minister for three weeks before Mrs Gandhi pulled the rug from under him and forced the 1980 election.

He has attracted more minor parties to join him in a party renamed the Dalit Mazdoor Kisan Party. "Dalit" refers to the depressed classes, "Mazdoor" means agricultural labourers, "Kisan" means farmer. Unfortunately, the formation of the DMKP came too late for the election commission, and the party has had to fight under the old Lok Dal banner (23 seats).

Congress (Socialist): Most people believed the (S) after Congress stood for Mr Sharad Pawar, a former Congress Chief Minister of Maharashtra, who split the party and formed a coalition with Janata. The party has very little strength outside Maharashtra, however, and is now in alliance with the Janata rump (5 seats).

Most states outside the Hindi belt have strong regional parties.

The leading ones are:

All-India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam ("Kazhagam" means association, "Munnetra" means progressive, "Dravida" refers to the Dravidian people of South India, "anna" refers to Mr C. N. Annadurai, founder of the Dravidian Association, which became the DMK).

A brilliantly successful film star, Mr M. G. Ramachandran broke away from the DMK to found the AIADMK, which rules Tamil Nadu state. The party has an agreement with Congress and will support Mr Gandhi. Alias, Mr Ramachandran lies in a New York hospital suffering from both kidney failure and a stroke; his absence makes psephological predictions more difficult (three seats).

Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam: The party to benefit from any weakness in the AIADMK in the state is led by Mr M. Karunanidhi, a film scriptwriter; it is now allied to Janata. The plight of the Tamils in northern Sri Lanka makes an exploitable issue, enabling DMK members to call for Indian military intervention (14 seats).

Telugu Desam: Telugu is the language spoken in Andhra Pradesh. "Desam" means country or nation. The party is an astonishingly successful upstart, led by another southern film star, Mr N. T. Rama Rao. The dismissal of his ministry by Mrs Gandhi and its triumphant reinstatement made it look as though the Telugu Desam would make a clean sweep in the elections - the sympathy vote and Mr Gandhi's own personality may well alter that, however. Andhra figured on Mr Gandhi's first election tour this weekend (two seats).

National Conference: The old "Lion of Kashmir", Shaikh Mohammad Abdullah, founded the National Conference as a Gandhian, pro-Indian unity party opposed to the Muslim League. When it came to elections, the National Conference won hands down in the Kashmir Valley, whether supporting Congress or opposing it.

Under the shaikh's son, Dr Farooq Abdullah, the party has split (three seats).

Rashtriya Sanjiv Manch: The National Sanjay Platform, founded by his widow, Mrs Menaka Gandhi, holds three seats in the present Parliament. Mrs Gandhi herself will be conducting the best-reported campaign of the election, confronting the Prime Minister

Divisional Court

Law Report December 4 1984

Divisional Court

Constable's power to detain stopped vehicle Breath test machine's leap year difficulty

Lodwick v Sanders
Before Lord Justice Watkins and Mr Justice Webster
(Judgment delivered November 27)

A constable who had stopped a vehicle pursuant to his powers under section 159 of the Road Traffic Act, 1972 and who suspected the vehicle had been stolen by the driver of it was entitled in the execution of his duty to detain and seize the vehicle and to arrest the driver, the Queen's Bench Divisional Court held, allowing an appeal by way of case stated by the prosecutor from the dismissal of an information against the defendant.

The whole incident was over in 30 seconds. The justices concluded not only that PC Cairns had no opportunity of informing the defendant that he wished to see driving documents but also none of saying that he had formed the suspicion that the defendant was at the wheel of a stolen lorry.

The justices were of the opinion that although section 159 of the Road Traffic Act, 1972 obliged a driver when required, to stop and further to remain at rest for a reasonable period and provided he would be guilty of an offence if he failed to do so, the section did not empower a police officer to do any act which was an interference with a person's liberty or property to cause the vehicle to stop and remain at rest; that although the defendant had undoubtedly committed an offence of failing to give full particulars, that was not an arrestable offence and the officer had no right to prevent him from moving off for that reason alone and the officer was not therefore acting within the execution of his duty to restrain the freedom of the defendant by removing the key. Accordingly the justices dismissed the information.

PC Cairns asked about the excise licence. The defendant's response was to state his name and address. As he did so he started the engine and put the lorry in gear intending to move off.

PC Cairns was, understandably, not satisfied with the equivocal answer he was given about ownership of the lorry and insisted on the inspection of which neither he nor the other constable had completed. So he entered the cab and took possession of the ignition key to restrain the defendant driving away until all their inquiries had been made.

The defendant grabbed the

constable's hand and pushed it tightly against the steering wheel so causing him to release the key. PC Cairns then arrested the defendant for assaulting him.

It was a necessary inference of the existence of the power in section 159 and in conjunction with sections 161 and 162 that a driver was under a duty to keep the vehicle at a standstill while, at the very least, a constable had a reasonable opportunity of exercising his powers under those sections.

Mr J. D. A. Fennell, QC and Mr Richard Latham for the prosecutor; Mr R. O. Daniel for the defendant.

LORD JUSTICE WATKINS said that it was important to distinguish between a constable's powers and the citizen's duties, and between requiring a driver to stop his vehicle and physically stopping it.

There was no doubt that a person driving a motor vehicle on a road was under a duty to stop when required to do so by a constable in circumstances created by statute.

A driver was not, save in

circumstances created by statute, obliged to answer a constable's questions but that did not entitle the driver to drive away a vehicle which a constable sought for good reason.

There was a vital distinction between a duty owed by a driver to keep his vehicle at a standstill and a power given to a constable to detain the vehicle against the driver's will. His Lordship was in no doubt that there were circumstances in which a common law constable had any power to do more than to "require" the citizen to stop.

The authorities were inconsistent with the proposition that section 159 conferred upon a constable a power physically to detain a motor vehicle once it had been stopped.

As his Lordship concluded, the officer could not have believed that the vehicle was stolen immediately the defendant began to drive it away and if he suspected or believed that the defendant had stolen it or received it knowing it to be stolen, he became entitled to detain the vehicle; and if, as was apparent from the facts found, he had had no time to explain that he was detaining the vehicle, he was entitled to do so.

It was well established that the police had no general power to detain any person for questioning. A constable might ask a question of a person but he could not (a) require

the defendant to give an answer or (b) he could not demand an answer to any question. There were statutory enactments to that half-lighted right of the citizen.

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FASHION by Suzy Menkes

Fine



On Saturday, a discreet but glittering party is being thrown at Althorp, hosted by the Countess Spencer and with the purpose of showing off a collection of fine jewels. I do not suppose that anyone from Van Cleef and Arpels will be bold enough to propose a toast on the evening to the other well-known Spencer. But it is the Princess of Wales who has brought to the eyes of the London jewellers a sparkle to

match their ritzy Christmas windows.

Jewellery has come back into fashion for the rich young. The Princess of Wales has led the trend from the top; from the street it has been fed by lavish splashes of paste.

The result has been a creative surge in "high" jewellery, with new directions in design and new fashions in stones. Colour makes news, with emeralds and rubies, or emeralds and sapphires, used together or in clusters of patterns. Settings look young and fresh, rather than heavy and opulent, and the important necklace is following the strapless bodies and one-shoulder gowns into fashion.

The jewellery is literally as light as air, for space plays an important part in the designs. A succulent pearl-shaped diamond hangs in a gold frame or a trembling cabochon sapphire is suspended as a pendant. Animation is allied to space, so that the gems move delicately with the body and the mounts are flexible rather than rigid.

The big money is on coloured stones. The yellow sapphire is the theme stone of Cartier's new collection. Inspired by a parure of imaginatively-mixed stones — pearls, diamonds and golden sapphire made by Louis Cartier at the beginning of the century — there are strands of twisted pearls and brilliants clasping an 87.83 carat sapphire as bright as a cat's eye. The open work gold chain, interspersed with brilliants, holds other sapphires in a gentle grip.

Representational designs, inspired from nature but with a harder design edge, are also in fashion. Stylized flowers, predatory animals and insects, or Edward Evans's extraordinary birds spreading colourful enamel gemset wings at Garrard.

The vogue for coloured stones is expressed at Garrard by recreating a Victorian idea: the first letter of each stone spells out a message. "DEAREST" reads a delicate

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On show will be their rare
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Necklace of diamonds and heart-shaped rubies set in gold, for a parure of necklace, ring, bracelet and ear clips. From Boucheron, 180 New Bond Street, W1.

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The vogue for coloured stones is expressed at Garrard by recreating a Victorian idea: the first letter of each stone spells out a message. "DEAREST" reads a delicate

chain bracelet set with Diamond, Emerald, Amethyst, Ruby, Emerald, Sapphire, Topaz.

Monsieur Gérard's scarf tie necklace in claw set diamond and ruby with pave diamond and ruby motif. Part of a set with matching earrings and bracelet from Monsieur Gérard, 13a Grosvenor Street, W1.

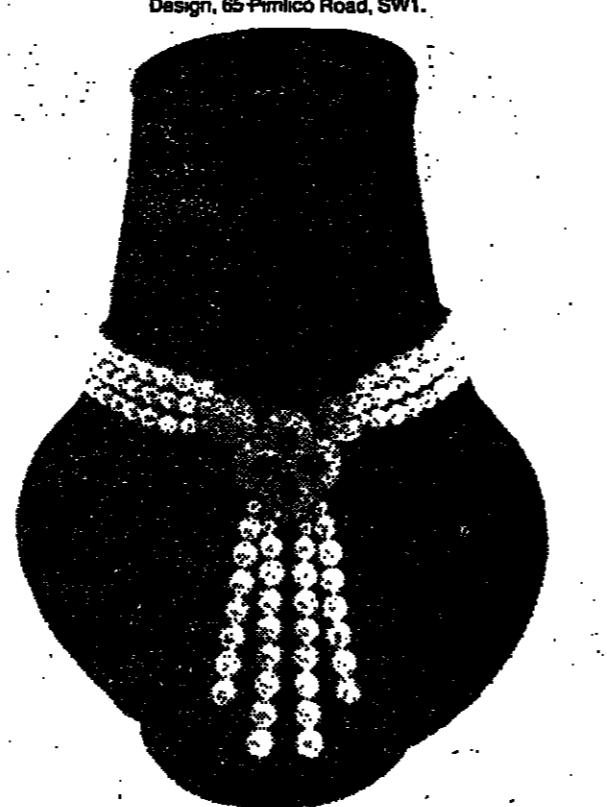
cabochon sapphires set in diamond baguettes and brilliants for a necklace, ring, bracelet and earrings from Van Cleef and Arpels, 153 New Bond Street, W1.

The jewellers do not necessarily agree, but I see a definite trend towards cabochon rather than faceted stones. This is because cabochon looks much less showy, says Van Cleef and Arpels, who have strings of cabochon sapphires as well as their colourful rubies, sapphires or emeralds set in a sporty double rim necklace of gold and diamonds.

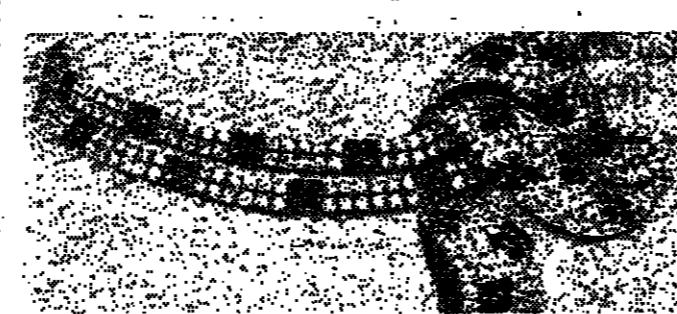
Most modern jewellers today divide their ranges into fine or "high" jewellery and the boutique collections, the latter selling from £500 to £15,000 with watches, and especially the

Hennell's important Art Deco diamond pave set bracelet in platinum with bold buckle fastening. Originally made by Hennell in 1928. From Hennell, 12 New Bond Street, W1. Photograph by Mike Smallcombe.

Left: big and beautiful pear-shaped 18.38ct diamond in a necklace by David Thomas for De Beers International collection. Right: lotus leaf ring of 14mm pearl set in 18ct yellow gold and diamond from David Thomas Design, 65 Pimlico Road, SW1.



Openwork heart-shape cluster motif in pave set diamonds mounted in yellow gold, set on a three-row cultured pearl necklace from Garrard, The Crown Jewellers, 112 Regent Street, W1.



Diamond nonchalance: Monsieur Gérard's scarf tie necklace in claw set diamond and ruby with pave diamond and ruby motif. Part of a set with matching earrings and bracelet from Monsieur Gérard, 13a Grosvenor Street, W1.

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cabochon sapphires set in diamond baguettes and brilliants for a necklace, ring, bracelet and earrings from Van Cleef and Arpels, 153 New Bond Street, W1.

Jewels



Image from nature: Edward Evans White enamel and diamond swan necklace with diamond drop, mounted in 18ct yellow gold, £54,000. Brilliant cut earrings. Both from Garrard, The Crown Jewellers, 112 Regent Street, London W1. Black velvet deep V-back dress by Cerruti, £300 from The Beauchamp Place Shop SW3.

ubiquitous sports watch, as part of the boutique range.

But do the English, as opposed to Arabs, Americans, South Americans and Japanese, buy fine jewellery? Christopher Goodger of Hennell, whose company built its reputation on absolute discretion and impeccable service to the English upper classes, says the first time Hennell's old-established customers dusted down their best jewels was for the ball preceding the royal wedding.

Hennell, who specialize in the Art Deco period, now sell some very important pieces, including a magnificent ruby and diamond necklace made in the 1920s for Coco Chanel, and a fabulous tiara originally part of the Romanov royal collection of Russia.

Discretion is the better part of value for all jewellers. It is easier to find collectors in England for fine antique jewellery than for the bolder modern designs (some of which are shamelessly aimed at Middle Eastern customers).

Geoffrey Dunn of Wartski says that customers want to identify with well-known craftsmen, but fashions also change in these names from the past. The Castellani and Giuliano revivalist jeweller that was the

subject of Wartski's recent exhibition now sells in thousands rather than the hundreds offered 10 years ago.

Designer David Thomas believes that he can sell to the English, offering them from his Pimlico Road shop the delicate earrings and bolder rings that educate customers in good jewellery and lead them on towards finer things.

Make-up Clifford Brake for Helena Rubinstein using The Bijoux Colour Collection.

Hair by Clifford Brake for Michael John.

Photographs by John Swannell

SALE

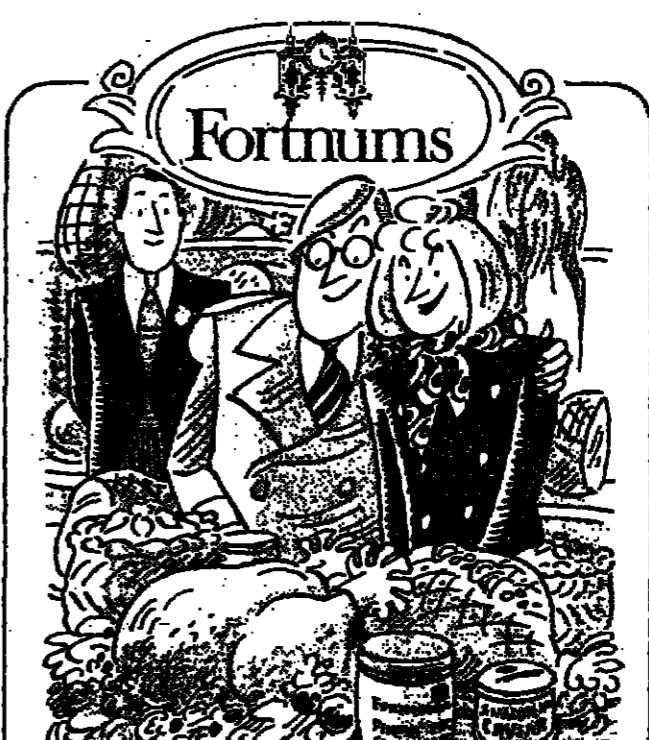
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VANESSA'S DIARY

Thurs. Panic sets in at thought of Christmas catering. Last year had a bad attack of the Mrs Beetons and Did It All Myself.

Absolute disaster. My turkey was more stripped than dressed, my gammon was ghastly, and we needed a hammer for the icing on my Christmas cake. As for my game pie — Julian asked how the clay pigeon got into it.

This year shall go to Fortnum's and choose from their haleys hams and gorgeous game pies and perfect pâtés and cherished cheeses and succulent smoked salmon — not to mention pheasant and chicken and fresh farm turkey.

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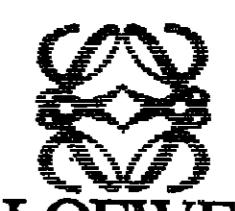


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THE ARTS

Galleries

Putting flesh on to oil painting

Willem de Kooning:
Painting and Sculpture
1971-83

Anthony d'Offay

Sam Francis in Britain
Warwick Arts Trust

Steven Campbell: New
Paintings
Riverside Studios

no more. The rest is left to the imagination.

In *Garden* the colours are rich, predominantly fleshly, bringing it closer to the *Women* of the 1950s. "Flesh was the reason why oil painting was invented", De Kooning once declared, almost certainly with Rubens in his heart if not in his mind. The handling of colours is more dramatic too; splashed energetically across the canvas, they create their own random pattern, obscuring the figurative element which seems suddenly or of consequence. The painting thus acquires a new dimension, related to the biographical detail of its actual making: "action painting" it was named, and De Kooning together with Jackson Pollock were its major exponents.

In sculpture too De Kooning is an innovator. His bronzes, whether representing a *Seated Woman on a Bench*, a *Hostess* or simply just heads, reveal an almost frantic handling of the clay. The contours look fluid, as if wishing to burst out of their confines and melt, giving out the same *élan vital* as the paintings.

Less well known and a generation younger than De Kooning, Sam Francis is nonetheless considered among the most important Abstract Expressionist painters. If anything, he is more thoroughly abstract and more purely expressionist than De Kooning ever was, in the sense that he makes his colours alone speak for him. The exhibition at the Warwick Arts Trust (until December 16), although small – it consists of 11 paintings from British collections only – is comprehensive in as much as it covers a wide span in his career, between 1951 and 1974.

The earliest work in the show is the monochrome *Composition in White* of 1951, painted upon his arrival in Paris, where he was impressed by Bonnard and Matisse. Thereafter he promptly proceeded to change to brighter colours, such as the example entitled *Black and Yellow*. *Composition – Japan*, painted in 1958 after a visit there, is a serene watercolour on rice paper, whose strongly assymetric-

cal emphasis is reminiscent of the compositional schemes used in Japanese prints. In later works, such as *Dark Red Dream – Tokyo* or *Untitled L.I.*, the artist uses even stronger colours as well as new methods of employing them. What singles out Sam Francis's work above all is his total control of colour, handled with such mastery that it appears to acquire a life all its own, independent of the artist's will.

You may well ask what can a painter such as Steven Campbell and the eighteenth-century philosopher David Hume or indeed Bram Stoker's hero from *Dracula*, Professor Helsing, have in common. Not that it matters in the least as far as titles go, unless an example such as *In the Mist von Helsing gestures as the Head of Hume* (pictured right) requires additional explanation. In the context of an exhibition it certainly does.

The title itself is strange enough, but when considered in conjunction with the painting it becomes strange beyond comprehension. The painting represents a gigantic striding, grimacing youth, half obscured by mist, projected across the whole height of the canvas. Several scampering wild animals, considerably smaller in scale, a tree and the faint contours of what seems the gabled roof of a cottage complete the composition.

Campbell, showing at Riverside Studios until December 30, is essentially a Romantic in that his heroes seem to commune with nature, albeit in an idiosyncratic manner. His canvases are populated by overgrown Tweedledum and Tweedledee-like schoolboys, going places, doing things, although it is never quite clear where or what. There seems to be a lot of action around, yet the characters are stiff, their faces unsmiling and their gestures frozen as if caught in a game of charades.

Campbell's paintings may well be strange, absurd, funny even, grotesque. His is a deeply serious art and I believe that he is one of the most forceful and original artists to have emerged lately in Britain.

Sanda Miller



Concerts

LPO/López-Cobos
Festival Hall

Beethoven's *Missa Solemnis* remains for me one of the most impenetrably mysterious pieces of music in the world. Not impenetrable yet somehow intelligible, like the late piano sonatas on which Beethoven worked at the same time, but

impenetrable and utterly unintelligible. And after Sunday night's entirely worthy and in many respects profoundly accomplished performance by the London Philharmonic Choir and Orchestra I am little wiser.

In the course of his discursive but often extremely penetrating account of the work in *Beethoven and the Voice of God*, Wilfrid Mellers has a tiny throwaway line that for Beethoven "even liturgical tradition becomes a personal apophysis". And there, precisely, is the rub: there is something alienating about a treatment at once so vast and so personal of this most universal of texts. In those long, almost hysterical prolongations of the movements – especially the ever-reenerating final section of the Gloria and the extraordinary melting away of the Credo – one senses the composer unable to let go, unable to remain content with the limitations of human expression until his personal vision has not only suggested but has in reality attained the transcendent.

Hence, presumably, the superhuman demands Beethoven makes on his choir, which would suggest that they should have abstained from most normal activities, like speaking and moving, for a week to prepare for the ordeal. The London Philharmonic Choir have other things to do, I dare say, but they sounded splendidly confident in all but the most frighteningly exposed moments, cultivating extremes of shrieking power and soft supplication which should have galvanized the spirit.

In spite of the outstandingly fine solos contributions of Edith Wiens and Anne Sofie von Otter (John Mitchinson was the tenor, and Matthew Best a good bass), the performance failed to take wing, partly because López-Cobos cultivated a smooth, even sound with little light or shade. Tennstedt might tear this piece apart under López-Cobos; it was unbelievably, unconvincingly rational.

Nicholas Kenyon

between the territories of jazz, easy listening and serious music.

Percy Grainger's Fantasy on *Porgy and Bess* also appears on the new disc, and was consequently played here too. In fact it does not amount to much of a fantasy at all, consisting merely of some rather nice arrangements of the more celebrated songs joined together in a pleasant medley without much rhyme or reason. Once more the playing was extraordinarily spectacular, and Katie Labèque's intermittent vocal emissions testified to the product as they could wish.

But the Labèques deserve their success. For one thing, they have gone to considerable trouble to unearth the original two-piano version of Gershwin's *An American in Paris*, which features on the record and was receiving its British premiere here. Their playing was full of hard-edged, even aggressive swagger, and, if at the end one found oneself missing the brassy orchestra of the final version that was partly due to the fact that in any case Gershwin's music often sounds uncomfortably marooned.

Stephen Pettitt

London debuts
Flawless marriage

The American baritone Thomas Hampson not only made a remarkable impact during his Lieder recital, but his accompanist Geoffrey Parsons seemed to enjoy his singing as much as did the highly appreciative audience.

Hampson is a flawless artist, managing a near-perfect marriage between the literary and musical content of the repertoire. Two Wolf songs were the most effective: "Abschied" was at once witty and pompous with an engaging swagger in the final bars, and Hampson dispatched "Der Rattenfänger" with a memorable combination of impishness and electricity.

Songs by Barber and Richard Strauss drew upon his serious persona; the light poetry of the latter's "Der Rosenband" and super-legato of "Nichts" ideally fitted the idiom and revealed the widest dramatic as well as vocal range.

The Canadian pianist Alain Lefèvre has an obvious penchant for the grand gesture. Schumann's Fantasy benefited from his overtly emotional style, and here left-hand polyphonic details lent the score an original balance. Other works continued the "molto appassionato" vein: Alexander Bröt's Suite derives from Liszt and Prokofiev, and was hugely exciting, while Rachmaninov's Second Sonata, though powerfully played, emerged as too diffuse. Lefèvre has a striking personality as well as an abundance of technique, and given maturity shows a real promise.

James Methuen-Campbell

The approach of the Swiss pianist Haimi Schmid-Wyss to Beethoven's Sonata in A, Op 2 No 2 seemed to exemplify the reputation of her compatriots for cleanliness and efficiency. Hers was a thoroughly reliable performance, but one in which the cantabile could have been several degrees more mellow and spacious and where her daintiness in the Scherzo seemed completely out of place. This may be an early work, but it is no polite one.

Yet this delicacy suited perfectly Schumann's *Scenes from Childhood*, a work familiar, in part at least, to most people who have learnt the piano to a relatively seldom heard in recital. Technically it is not the most frightening music to play; yet it takes a musician of Miss Schmid-Wyss's calibre to recall those distant childish emotions with such penetrating sensitivity.

The remainder of her programme was gratifyingly adventurous, though I must admit I would not go very far to hear the music of Othmar Schoeck if the rest of his output is to be judged from the chromatic ramblings and superficial glitter of the Consolation and Toccata, Op 29. Better by far were the Eight Preludes of Frank Martin, pieces which ranged from Berg-like expressionism to Stravinskian brittleness. Miss Schmid-Wyss obviously relished them too. Her playing here was full of fiery commitment, as indeed it had been for Smetana's terribly difficult, if slightly overbearing, *Konzertfantasie*.

Stephen Pettitt

Television
Tricking the body

It is very hard to watch a man who is crippled by disease take over an hour to eat his breakfast, even if the painfully-accomplishedfeat is edited down to a few minutes of television. Last night's *Horton* (BBC1) was a difficult programme to watch. It was about Ivan Vaughan, a man in his forties stricken with Parkinson's disease, whose options are to endure the barely controllable shaking of his limbs or to use the drug L-Dopa, which can still the tremor but substitutes other involuntary movements.

The programme was made by Jonathan Miller, as a brief return to television after quitting the medium for medicine two years ago. He explained that Vaughan had invited him to explore his condition and the strategies he had evolved to modify it. As Parkinsonism is a disease which rarely attacks people under the age of 50, the opportunity to study it in a young and otherwise fit patient was one Dr Miller chose to accept.

Miller has a marvellous gift for humanizing his programmes; the intimidating paraphernalia of television barely dampens his spontaneity or blunts the force of his interest. Much of his role in this film was to stand beside Vaughan as he patiently tried to accomplish small physical tasks.

Vaughan's technique for controlling his rebellious limbs was a mixture of focusing and distracting his attention. "Playing grandmother's footsteps with yourself" was Miller's description. It seemed to be a kind of mental self-hypnosis which tricked the body into normal functioning. The disease began to look more and more like a disorder of the will, and the explanation that it was due to a biochemical deficiency did not accord with the evidence of Vaughan's successes.

Miller's curiosity was evidently aroused by the insight which Vaughan's temporary mastery of his disease offered into the relationship between mind and body. It was a pity that the film deliberately chose not to offer explanations or conclusions, for the viewer's curiosity was aroused in turn by the mystery of the affliction.

Celia Brayfield

Pop music

R.E.M.

Lyceum Ballroom

Of all the fine new American bands to gain recent recognition one holds out the highest hopes for R.E.M., a group who rejoice in the live experience and make themselves readily available. That they can inspire an almost feverish live passion at times is one thing; their material and attitude towards it are another. R.E.M. eschew rhetoric and let their music do the talking.

At the Lyceum, the conversation began badly. Atrocious sound on stage and no sense of occasion off it led to a communications breakdown. R.E.M. have been compared to groups from the bedrock of Americana, from the Byrds to the Band, glossy comparisons though fruitless ones. Truer to say they are as fine a bar band as ever emerged from the States – on their night.

Much energy was dissipated before the singer Michael Stipe and his three unruly companions, looking for all the world like four different versions of the character in Roger Miller's "King of the Road", took stock of what was not happening.

Having stuttered through a too-brisk opening, a more enigmatic nature was revealed on the wistful "So, Central Rain" and the macabre new "Auctioneer". Unusually, R.E.M. are not frightened to experiment with unfamiliar songs and offered the pulsating "Driver Eight", "Kensey" and "Windout" for consideration as well as old favourites like "Gardening at Night" and "99", examples of Stipe's more panoramic lyrics.

One contrast embraced by R.E.M. lies in the elusive qualities of their sound and the frantic dismemberment it receives. When this works, the guitarist Peter Buck is synchronizing his stagecraft to his playing and the rhythm section of Mike Mills and Bill Berry locks tight, then Stipe is free to weave his peculiar incantations. When it fails, R.E.M. lose their seams and play too fast and loose. This was such a night, and one not saved by a quirky clutch of encore covers including Television's "See No Evil" and "Moongiver". Fortunately, there will be others.

Max Bell

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SPECTRUM

New statistics show a frightening increase in terrorism, particularly in Britain and on the Continent where more than half the incidents now take place. Caroline Moorehead reports that fanatics are turning to even more lethal exploits to try to draw attention to their cause

Why Europe is the target for terrorists

It is almost 14 years since the West German Marxist journalist Ulrich Meinhof interviewed Andreas Baader and Gudrun Ensslin about the fire bombing of two Frankfurt department stores, then went underground with them to form the most lethal European terrorist gang of the early seventies.

At first, their objection was only to what they called the "terrorism of things". They struck at empty buildings. In West Germany, as elsewhere, 80 per cent of all terrorist targets were objects. It wasn't until the Munich Olympics of 1972, when Palestinian terrorists shot dead 11 Israeli athletes, that people became desirable as targets. Today more than half the attacks are on people.

It is worth remembering these events. They show how very recent is the phenomenon of world terrorism. They show too how quickly styles change. Today, after a murderous decade, things are once again targets. In West Germany, the Revolutionary Cells (RZ) are attacking defence buildings, computers and multinationals in protest at what they call "psychological pollution".

Targets, methods, groups, all have their cycle: 1969 was the year of the hijacked plane (93); 1980 was the year of embassy and consulate sieges (40); 1983 was that of the car bomb (more than 500 people killed and 600 wounded).

'There are 13 per cent more dead each year'

Because it was the Americans who first spoke up most loudly about terrorism, and who remain targets in 43 per cent of world incidents, and because the Middle East has suffered from the most brutal attacks, Western Europe is often thought to be relatively uncontaminated.

This picture is quite false, as a report from the United States research group, the Rand Corporation, confirms. Since 1980 European countries have been rising inexorably in the league table of terrorism. Today more than half of all incidents take place here.

In bombings alone, France leads the table, with 126 attacks in six years, followed by West Germany (118), Turkey (105), Italy (101), Great Britain (64), Spain (61) and Greece (57).

It was only after Munich that governments began to collect and analyse terrorist data in any systematic way. What they found - 269 separate incidents that year alone - ensured future monitoring.

Today organisations like the Rand Corporation, the Jonathan Institute in America (set up after the Entebbe hijacking), and the International Relations Department of Aberdeen University under Professor Paul Wilkinson have computers endlessly sifting data.

In 1983 there were more victims than ever before - 1,925, double the 1982 figure. More than half of all attacks were on diplomats. And terrorism everywhere is growing with 13 per cent more deaths each year.

Over recent years patterns have emerged in Europe. Most spectacular are the "State terrorists" - the Libyans, Ira-

nians, North Koreans and Bulgarians, who send hit squads on international man hunts. Then come the transnational terrorists, members of national and separatist organisations who also work abroad.

Now that the Palestine Liberation Organization terrorist arm has lost its Lebanon base and fallen into political and financial difficulties, its role as foremost terrorist group has been taken over by the Armenians - ASALA (the Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia) and JCAG (Justice Commandos for the Armenian Genocide).

Claiming revenge for the 1915 Turkish massacre of Armenians, these groups in 1983 alone carried out attacks in Paris, Brussels, Belgrade, Berlin, Istanbul, Tehran, Lisbon and Marseilles (with aborted attempts in London, Lyons, and Stockholm). Since 1975 they have killed 26 Turkish diplomats, including five ambassadors.

Equally as ruthless are two of Europe's other leading groups - the Irish Republican Army (IRA) and the Basque separatist group ETA.

ETA has spent 25 years fighting in the Basque country, which has seen 400 killed and 35 kidnapped since 1968, as well as several thousand bombs. There are also believed to be some 400 Spanish Basque terrorist based in French Basque country.

Observers think that popular support for ETA is diminishing, although both bombings and "revolutionary kidnaps" - designed to raise huge ransoms - now steady at some six to nine each year - are likely to continue.

Terrorist operations in Northern Ireland by the IRA and INLA (the Irish National Liberation Army) are in fact somewhat down since their peak in 1972. That year 467 people died - a large part of the 2,345 deaths between 1969 and the end of last year. Since 1977, however, the average has settled at about 94 per annum.

Terrorist expert Richard Clutterbuck points out that this makes Belfast only a quarter as dangerous as Washington for its homicides, though possibly more perilous when it comes to kidnapping.

Small units on "active service" have regularly crossed to the English mainland. Between 1972 and 1983 more than 80 people were killed here by IRA attackers. Until the Brighton bombing in October the most dramatic incident took place last December, when a bomb went off among Christmas shoppers outside Harrods. Richard Clutterbuck estimates the IRA strength at some 300 people, based in Northern Ireland or just across the border in the Republic of Ireland.

It also claims to have links with Libyan and other international terrorist organizations.

Below the IRA and ETA come the ideological groups, operating widely throughout Europe. They range from the extreme right in Italy to the most recent generation of West German terrorists, the RZ.

Unlike the Red Army Faction they seek to disrupt political life, but not transform the entire capitalist system. Their bombings are usually at night, in deserted buildings.

In the wake of movements like these have come "issue groups", small bands protesting

about one specific policy: animal rights or nuclear power stations.

Because of its unhappy place at the top of Europe's league table, France's position is interesting. Considered somewhat lax in security by other EEC countries (it has not even ratified the European Convention on Terrorism), it suffers from having five borders and numerous disaffected regions, formerly under its control.

In 1982-83 France saw 111 international terrorist incidents, leaving 45 dead and 400 wounded. Action Directe, formed in 1979 from the remnants of various groups decimated by arrests, has consistently attacked French, American, and Jewish interests in its campaign against "imperialism and capitalism". Recently, the organization has turned to causes, most noticeably by bombing defence buildings in Paris last autumn to protest about the French troops in Chad.

Alongside Action Directe are the Charles Marcel Club (anti-semitic neo-fascists), the militants of Guadeloupe, Martinique, New Caledonia, French

Guiana, and the Corsicans, who have in Corsica alone exploded 1,300 bombs since 1982, up to 20 on a single night. France also has Bakunin Gdansk Paris (anti-defence industry) and CLODO, the Committee for the Liquidation of Computers. Since 1968, 157 diplomats have been attacked in France.

The last five years have seen successes against European terrorists. Italy, long the terrorist haven of Europe, has finally brought some stability to its streets. Three weeks ago, nine years of political violence in Milan were finally ended when 206 terrorists received 1,206 years in prison sentences.

"Repentant" terrorists with lenient sentences and new identities have helped destroy both the Red Brigades and Prima Linea.

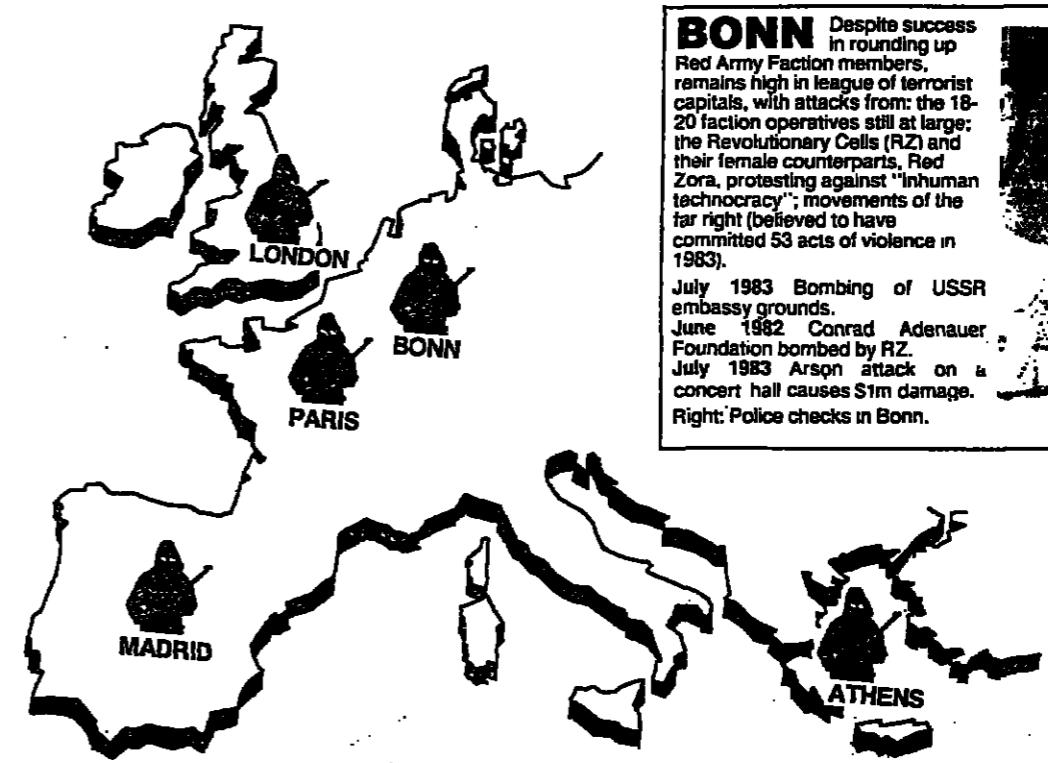
Across Europe as a whole, international agreements on hijacking and the safety of diplomats (Bonn, 1978; Venice, 1980; Ottawa, 1981) have contributed to the improvements in links between anti-terrorist forces.

Most recently the EEC has reiterated a "commitment to



BONN Despite success in rounding up Red Army Faction members, remains high in league of terrorist capitals, with attacks from the 18th Revolutionaries still at large; the Revolutionary Cells (RZ) and their female counterparts, Red Zora, protesting against "inhuman technocracy"; movements of the far right (believed to have committed 53 acts of violence in 1983).

July 1983 Bombing of USSR embassy grounds. June 1982 Conrad Adenauer Foundation bombed by RZ. July 1983 Arson attack on a concert hall causes \$1m damage. Right: Police checks in Bonn.



MADRID 400 people killed and 35 kidnapped by terrorists since 1968. Bombings of banks, multinationals and government buildings. Major terrorist threat comes from ETA and two smaller movements: GRAPO and Catalan Separatist Movement (TL). Nov 1982 Assassination of General Victor Lago Renter by ETA. Left: His funeral. March 1982 Spanish aristocrat Diego de Prado y Coloma Central kidnapped by ETA. December 1983 Murder of Jordanian diplomat Walid Jamil Balkiz, by the Arab Revolutionary Brigade.



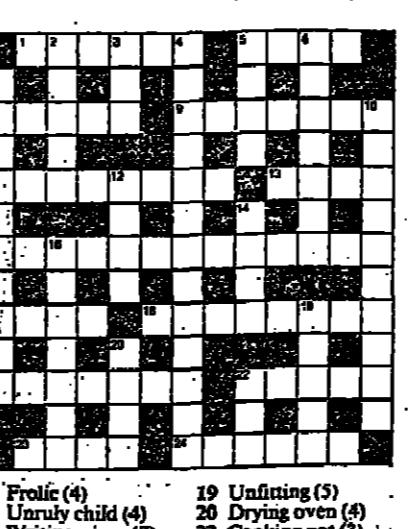
ATHENS Possible future centre for future terrorist violence because of Middle Eastern groups using Greece February 1984 Four bomb attacks by the Yellow Organization of Airforce Officers. March 1984 Assassination of British diplomat Kenneth Whitty by gunmen. Left: Scene of killing. April 1984 US army sergeant Robert Judd wounded by gunmen of 17th November Organization.

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Secrets that keep freedom's flame burning

moreover... Miles Kington

A man named Wilson leaned across the table to me the other day and said that I was very brave. This came as a surprise to me as I do not remember committing an act of heroism since 1967 when I announced loudly that I could not stand the Rolling Stones or Bob Dylan, and lost 30 friends in an evening.

But it transpired that he was referring to a piece I wrote recently in which I said that the Mel Brooks film. The Producers, was one of the most disappointing comedies ever made, a sentiment he heartily agreed with. Of course, this is not the sort of thing you normally say out loud, which is why I have protected this gentleman by referring to him simply as Wilson.

Anyway, Wilson went on to jeopardize his safety further by revealing that he did not care especially for the works of Stephen Sondheim, and, in particular, the song called *Send In The Clowns*.

"Did you know," he said, his voice sinking to a melodramatic whisper, "that there is a secret society of producers at the BBC who are bound together solely by their common hatred of *Send In The Clowns*? I believe they meet in private now and again just to make rowdy fun of this song."

I can well believe it. Although this is supposedly the age of freedom of thought, there is in reality as much conformity as ever. I myself can take or leave Sondheim - but my least favourite song of the age is that dreadful anthem of individuality known variously as *My Way*, *I Did It My Way* or *Here Comes Frank Sinatra Again*. Yet until Wilson encouraged me to be braver I should not have dreamt of mentioning it in print.

There must be many small secret societies throughout Britain keeping the flame of freedom of thought alive, thinking the unthinkable.

Societies, for instance, of those who cannot stand Winnie the Pooh and still shudder at the sight of honey, of those who come out of Alan Ayckbourn's comedies feeling intensely depressed, or those who would rather go to a funeral of a close relative than experience a play by Samuel Beckett.

There must be, though we do not hear about them, small societies of music lovers who think that music played on

authentic instruments sounds totally wrong.

There are people - because I have sat next to them - who think that packed aeroplane meals are rather good and also people who cannot stand wholemeal bread, even though they know it is good for them.

There must be people who are longing to place on their cars yellow stickers reading: "No clear power? Yes please!"

They dare not say so out loud because conformity rules the other way. Who would dare say, for instance, that their favourite member of the Royal Family is Princess Anne and their least favourite the Prince of Wales?

Yet I have met such people.

There are other people who genuinely dislike hot sunshine and dread the arrival of summer, yet it is more than their life is worth to say so.

There are people who have never heard of Torvill and Dean (unless they think they are the firm that produces cinema commercials); there are people whose favourite Welshman is Clive Jenkins, and there are even people who welcomed the demise of the steam train, mostly engine-drivers.

All these secret societies, full of people who could not stand the Goon Show, cannot see the point of the Marx Brothers, think that TV was at its best in its first two weeks.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 512)

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|--------------------|--|--------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------|---------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|---------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| ACROSS | 1 Small pieces (6) | 2 Welsh emblem (4) | 3 Sea air (5) | 4 Leave launching pad (4,3) | 5 Unclear (3,5) | 6 Scheming woman (4) | 7 Striker (6,7) | 8 Track (4) | 9 Maestro (8) | 10 Fi (7) | 11 Eucharist plate (5) | 12 Yemen capital (4) | 13 Withheld (6) | 14 Frolic (4) | 15 Unruly child (4) | 16 Writing paper (7) | 17 Quadrilateral (10) | 18 Ruby (8) | 19 Crack! (11) | 20 Steamer (5) | 21 Shout (4) | 22 Scream (5) | |
| DOWN | 1 Muscle (5) | 2 Eas (3) | 3 Imposed by oneself (4,9) | 4 Head to wind (4) | 5 Sexual art (7) | 6 Horn of plenty (10) | 7 Immovable spot (3,3) | 8 Track (4) | 9 Fi (7) | 10 Eucharist plate (5) | 11 Yemen capital (4) | 12 Crack! (11) | 13 Shout (4) | 14 Frolic (4) | 15 Unruly child (4) | 16 Writing paper (7) | 17 Quadrilateral (10) | 18 Ruby (8) | 19 Crack! (11) | 20 Steamer (5) | 21 Shout (4) | 22 Scream (5) | |
| SOLUTION TO No 511 | 1 Caber 8 Rauncher 9 Yiddish 10 Uncanny 11 Whoos 12 Spear 13 Quadrilateral 14 Ruby 15 Shout 16 Scream 17 Fi 18 Eas 19 Crack! 20 Steamer 21 Shout 22 Scream | 1 Small pieces (6) | 2 Welsh emblem (4) | 3 Sea air (5) | 4 Leave launching pad (4,3) | 5 Unclear (3,5) | 6 Scheming woman (4) | 7 Striker (6,7) | 8 Track (4) | 9 Maestro (8) | 10 Fi (7) | 11 Eucharist plate (5) | 12 Yemen capital (4) | 13 Withheld (6) | 14 Frolic (4) | 15 Unruly child (4) | 16 Writing paper (7) | 17 Quadrilateral (10) | 18 Ruby (8) | 19 Crack! (11) | 20 Steamer (5) | 21 Shout (4) | 22 Scream (5) |
| DOWN | 1 Cut out 2 Bang 3 Rescinds 4 Royal Highness 5 Node 6 High ho 7 Reheat 8 Glorious 14 Umbrage 15 Frolics 16 Antler 17 Ensure 20 Skirt | 1 Small pieces (6) | 2 Welsh emblem (4) | 3 Sea air (5) | 4 Leave launching pad (4,3) | 5 Unclear (3,5) | 6 Scheming woman (4) | 7 Striker (6,7) | 8 Track (4) | 9 Maestro (8) | 10 Fi (7) | 11 Eucharist plate (5) | 12 Yemen capital (4) | 13 Withheld (6) | 14 Frolic (4) | 15 Unruly child (4) | 16 Writing paper (7) | 17 Quadrilateral (10) | 18 Ruby (8) | 19 Crack! (11) | 20 Steamer (5) | 21 Shout (4) | 22 Scream (5) |
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Mother land

Ivestiya claims that the Soviet army deserters Igor Rykov and Oleg Khan returned to Russia from Britain last month because they yearned for the motherland. Extracts just sent to me of an interview they gave 18 months ago to a representative of the Soviet Prisoners' Afghan Rescue Committee in Afghanistan suggest they had every reason to stay away. Khan believed he faced execution for shooting another soldier: "I was cleaning the gun and it went off, killing my friend accidentally. I was worried the authorities would think I had done it on purpose to escape", he said. Rykov said he wanted to make a new start in the West because his wife had written to say she was pregnant by another man. Ironically it was said to be the receipt of a photograph of this daughter from his wife which prompted "homesick" Rykov to give himself up to the Soviet Embassy.

Cracking Mirror?

How long can Neil Kinnock depend on the support of Robert Maxwell and his newspapers? The Labour leader would doubtless be perturbed to know that Maxwell had a hitherto unpublicised meeting with David Steel at Mirror Group HQ last week. Steel went alone, without telling his parliamentary colleagues and, I'm told, hearing the message that Maxwell can no longer afford to ignore his party. Maxwell, admitting to the meeting last Tuesday morning, would only say that "mutually useful discussions took place". Maxwell, of course, faces possible expulsion from the Labour party for using Tory employment laws to evict redundant employees.

Ear ear!

Denis Healey was not his razor-sharp self as he chaired a working group on defence and security at the weekend Argonaut conference. A French contribution was followed by an awkward silence as the Shadow Foreign Secretary listened with puzzled concentration to a simultaneous translation on his headphones. It turned out he was tuned to a quite different discussion on cultural cooperation taking place elsewhere in Palais des Papes. "I couldn't understand what sending Claudio Abbado to Vienna had to do with European defence," he said.

MPs may have come up with a nice snub to political journalists hoping to hear results on Thursday of a House Magazine poll to find the political journalist of the year. Rumour has it one of the front-runners is not just a journalist: he is an MP too.

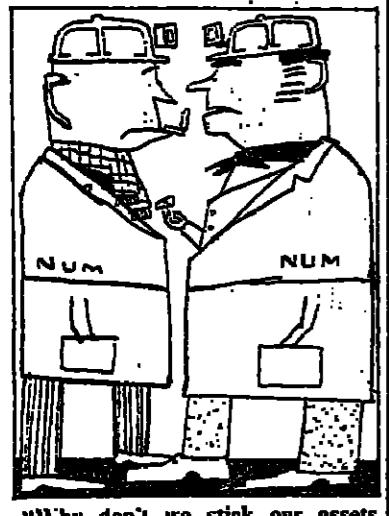
Wrong image

After a banquet at the National Portrait Gallery this summer, Mrs Thatcher asked its director if she might borrow some dozen paintings, among them an oil of the Earl of Stockton painted by Bryan Organ in 1980. The paintings were delivered to Number 10 in October, and the Earl's portrait was given pride of place in the Prime Minister's private study. That was before Lord Stockton's maiden speech in the Lords last month with all its coded criticism. Suddenly Mrs T had second thoughts about who she wanted watching her at work. The painting was discreetly moved last week to another part of the building.

Flooded

Plaid Cymru, down to two MPs and split between left and right, may now have to sell off its party headquarters in Cardiff, to make ends meet. I gather that treasurer John Dixon is preparing a report for Saturday's meeting of the national executive and that a move out of the capital and back to "the grassroots in the valleys" is on the cards. The party's financial problems are not all of its making. Four years ago its efforts to convert the top two floors of the three-storey HQ into lettable offices was refused by the Labour-controlled city council.

BARRY FANTONI



Time honoured

Jimmy Allan, British Rail's area manager in Edinburgh, has just received £10 and an anonymous note which states: "Following an autobiographical survey of my early youth my conscience urges me to send the enclosed amount to you as successors to the North British Railway for an unpaid rail journey of about 10 miles in Fife which I made somewhat dishonestly." With BR facing a £300 million bill for electrifying the London/Edinburgh line, every little helps.

PHS

Reform — not abolition

by Reg Freeson

For months, parliamentary, local and national government resources will be squandered on the Government's ill-conceived plans to abolish the GLC and metropolitan counties. Yet abolition will not provide the reforms that are really needed.

Despite multi-million pound propaganda campaigns, elective support for the GLC and metropolitan counties is minimal. Functions, boundaries and relations with district authorities are ill-defined. Problems of finance, urban renewal, transport, housing, environment, education and training, youth and community, have been badly tackled.

London has been without strategic roads planning for more than 10 years. GLC sites take even longer to develop. Integrated transport is non-existent. Housing programmes and management are often grossly inefficient. Departments and authorities are uncoordinated. Inner areas decline inexorably — due to poor management (by Government departments too) as much as inadequate resources. Community and neighbourhood continue to wither. There are some exceptions — such as Tyne and Wear and West Yorkshire — but the inadequacies of action are widespread.

Most Conservatives as well as Opposition MPs want elected local government for Greater London and other metropolitan areas, as do most ministers. The Prime Minister is unpersuaded as yet. But the Government can expect serious embarrassment: back bench rebellions, humiliation in

the Lords, losing the arguments, if not the votes, in the Commons.

Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, has said: "We need to win over staff affected by abolition — or it will be delayed by lack of cooperation." (*Local Government Chronicle*, July 6, 1984). Given that he has neither won over staff nor obtained cooperation, we have a recipe for chaos in April, 1986.

It is not too late. Within two years, the quangos, joint boards and committees could and should be brought under coherent democratic city government.

The Government's Bill should provide for the necessary review and machinery to this end. A commission on the future of metropolitan government should be provided for with all-party support. Its remit: the creation of new and more effective elected authorities — to concentrate on structure planning, transport planning, urban renewal, coordination of complementary functions and services and applied research.

Such bodies could be smaller than at present (perhaps single representatives from each borough) and would not have the general powers of other local authorities.

There should be a major overhaul of the ill-coordinated shambolic machinery which has characterized County Hall for 20 years. Committees and departments could be

limited in number according to their major statutory functions. Borough and district authorities might have rights of elective representation.

The commission should report within one year and there should be a commitment by all parties to legislate promptly on the basis of its report.

The commission should thereafter have a continuing role in the future of metropolitan government overseen by a select committee. Its remit should cover boundaries for metropolitan areas and the districts within them, departmental machinery and committee structure (county and district) with an eye to better coordination of services, development of neighbourhood management and elected neighbourhood / urban parish councils. It should review the machinery of Whitehall departments in relation to local government tasks and functions and make recommendations.

Both Government and Opposition parties should reflect while Parliament engages in the battle about the Bill. There will be no going back on this fight, of course. But whatever changes might be sought, with the Government's huge majority, the GLC and metropolitan counties are bound to be abolished.

For the sake of the body politic, healthy democratic politics and effective renewal and good city management, basic common ground for the future must be struck between the parties.

The author is Labour MP for Brent East.

With the breakthrough in talks over Cyprus, Nicos Devletoglou outlines the suspicions held against Costas Karamanlis

Time to reopen the old Cyprus file

The massive advances of the left in Greece and the characteristic mishandling of the Cyprus issue by successive Greek governments are neither a sudden nor a new phenomenon. The process goes back to before the general election of October 1981, which saw the unprecedented collapse of the right.

It all began with the refusal of Mr Costas Karamanlis to open the so-called Cyprus File and hold a public inquiry into the Cyprus disaster of 1974. Despite the opposition's demand in parliament at the time that the facts be put before the people, the then Greek premier declared it "irrevocably closed" soon after he came to power in July. Yet only in May 1974, news had reached Greece, confirmed by Nato intelligence sources, of a secret meeting between Karamanlis and the Turkish prime minister Mr Ecevit just outside Paris.

The majority of people in Greece wanted then — as they do today — to know what a well-known ex-premier could have possibly had to say to Mr Ecevit, in secret, only weeks before the Turkish invasion in Cyprus and the collapse of the military government. If, as some insist, no such meeting took place, a public inquiry would have been the proper medium to put the facts responsibly before the people.

In the absence of an inquiry the conspiracy allegation remains

In the absence of an inquiry the principal allegation remains that Mr Karamanlis and other leading political figures, who subsequently formed the New Democracy Party, were involved in a conspiracy which led to the Turkish invasion, the consequent fall of the military government and the election to power of Mr Karamanlis and his party. If it indeed happened it must be judged one of the most successful conspiracies of modern history: the military government fell in the way anticipated, the New Democracy Party swept into office with an overall majority, remained in power for seven years — and its leader and founder, now an old man of 77, even became president.

As a result this failure the Turkish Cypriots, who represent 18 per cent of the population, now possess 40 per cent of the island and the Turkish presence remains. The enforced partition has produced all



The allegations have gained some credibility because they make sense of events which have both shocked and disappointed many Greeks and which otherwise lack a convincing explanation. Specifically, they clarify the curious behaviour of the New Democracy Party, both in office and since October 1981, when it lost power to the left-wing Panhellenic Socialist Movement led by Andreas Papandreou.

While in office, the New Democracy Party — presumed to be conservative, traditionalist and pro-free enterprise — behaved in such a way as to make the famous U-turn of Mr Edward Heath look like a mundane compromise. Year after year it conducted affairs of state as if it were somehow bound by mysterious and invisible fetters which threw it off course and prevented it from carrying out its natural and most important election pledges.

A conspiracy of the kind alleged would also explain, in a slightly less obvious way, why successive Karamanlis governments failed to live up to expectations in the economic sphere and why more recently the New Democracy Party has behaved so feebly in opposing Mr Papandreou's brand of radical socialism.

A political group — or administration — that has been party to a conspiracy is obviously inhibited from taking radical action, being at the mercy of those who know the truth. Indeed, a government or a party which constantly fears exposure has an interest in keeping the political temperature down. This would explain the New Democracy Party's dull, lacklustre performance in government and its half-hearted responses to the most controversial actions of the Papandreou government. It remains to be seen to what extent the newly elected leader, Mr Costas Mitsotakis, can effectively reorient and revitalise the party in time for the next general elections.

Although it is commonly accepted that Andreas Papandreou took no part in the alleged conspiracy, and was initially unaware of its existence, there can be no doubt that he is conscious of the explosive nature of the matter. He naturally has access to information denied to the ordinary citizen, and has occasionally referred to the subject. Until very recently Mr Papandreou was pledged to introduce in parliament a public inquiry on the Cyprus File.

But of course, if the allegations are correct, how could they have taken firm measures to punish the Turks for the invasion?

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A party which fears exposure is inhibited about radical action

It is not in Mr Papandreou's interest to focus the searchlight of public inquiry on the subject. If the conspiracy happened, then his main political opponents are rendered impotent and are bound to remain so. If it didn't happen, it is in Papandreou's best interest to allow the growing speculation to feed on itself. And so it will — unless of course, the New Democracy Party under its new leader breaks loose from its Karamanlis fetters, and, free from the mistakes of the past, takes the initiative.

The author was Professor of Political Economy at the University of Athens until 1975, and is a co-founder of the National Union Party.

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A nation remembers its lines

Roger Boyes finds Poland's underground poets leading the people's protest towards spiritual and temporal freedom

The major poets of protest are part of the 1968 generation.

Stanislaw Baranczak, Adam Zagajewski — now in the West — and Krynicki, were reacting to the debasement of language by politics and describing with freshness the period of the student protests in March 1968. This generation found a common cause with the shortlived publication of a magazine called *Student* and its supplement *Young Culture*.

Film-makers like Feliks Falk and Agnieszka Holland, encouraged by the older Andrzej Wajda, the performers of the

Theatre of the Eighth Day in Poznan, the graphic artists of

Cracow — all felt, with the poets, that their art could help them to recast

politics in an ethical mould.

The years of nervous government

that helped create a springboard for Solidarity and the self-doubt of the

Communist Party, concealed by

armour of martial law, became all

too obvious to the poets of protest,

Krynicki writes:

The people in power are afraid of heights:

The higher they climb —

The more they fear returning to earth.

Down to earth, the poets wait for

the return of Poland's leaders. In

the first anthology of martial law poetry

Leczek Szaruga, a poet himself, writes that "every generation of Poles has to go through our

historical routine: conspiracy, uprising, war. From this cultural experience stems the idea of the romantic here — not an individual as in the nineteenth century but now a whole

Polish poetry might well get 10

classes of about 20 workers: the students contribute to the lecturer's fee.

Survival would be easier if they

were more confident that their cause

was not completely forgotten by the

West. In one of her series of poems,

Snuggled Letters, Anka Kowalska, a

former member of the Kor dissident group, wrote a year after martial law:

Dear friends,

So nothing happened really —

A small row in the family,

The whole world sighs, relieved

Philip Whitehead

The other victims of pit violence

"There you are", Sir George Cusworth rose early for work. He was still in his own garden when he was hailed from the gate by two men in riot gear who ran up. He went to speak to them, and was hauled bodily over the fence and beaten senseless. Then, with a broken collar bone and multiple bruising, he was flung into a police van and taken to the police station, accused of being a petrol bomber. Mr Cusworth was released that afternoon for medical attention, on condition that he did not press charges.

The alleged assailants of Michael Fletcher were rounded up, within hours. At the moment of writing the NCB brought to the table to do it. They don't like violence, and they say so more readily than their president. They don't like the other side of violence, either the violence of language and the violence of the state directed against them. It increases their bitterness, and their determination. That is why they still have the will to win, and will stay out to do it.

We seem to forget in this country that we are members of the same body politic. Do our miners realize what the Prime Minister's speech at the Carlton Club, rabid with class war, looked like when viewed in a miner's household? We all see the same television, but it is not reflecting back to us shared images of ourselves. Equally, Mrs Thatcher's tone and language in reacting to the appalling death of David Wilkie seemed to come perilously close to linking with that single act.

The death of David Wilkie was a dreadful thing, unanimously condemned as such. So is each and every act of wanton violence in this dispute. Anyone who tries to minimize its consequences debases his or her cause.

The consequences will be felt for a generation, not just in broken bones but in fractured communities. The violence goes both ways, however, and only one is fully reported. Those who suffer from it, and are ignored, become hardened against a sense of what it is doing to others if condemnation is a one-way conduit.

One example must suffice. Consider the case of Mr Ernest Cusworth, a school cleaner who lives in Brampton Bierlow, South Yorkshire, on a council estate just up the road from Cortonwood Colliery. I visited him last week, on the day when every newspaper had front-page coverage of the savage attack on working miner Michael Fletcher.

A fortnight before there had been an equally disgraceful attack on Mr Cusworth. He has nothing to do with the pit, nor the picket lines. He has a simple job which he enjoys, and the worn look which comes to men in their fifties who have known 35 years of manual work. He seems older and frailer than his 54 years. Just now he looks 20 years older.

Roger Scruton

Punish the real school bullies

A naive observer might suppose that the campaign for "anti-racist" education is an example of the British political process at work, doing its best to overcome social evils before they get out of hand. It is worth rehearsing some of the facts.

A prime mover of the view that British schools are intrinsically racist was the black schoolteacher Bernard Coard, who published in 1971 a pamphlet entitled *How the West Indian Child is Made Educationally Subnormal in the British School System*. Coard, a revolutionary Marxist, was subsequently adviser to the ILEA, in which role he did much to propagate the view that the structure of school education must be overturned if "white racism" was to be eliminated. Coard is now in prison in Gren

victims
of violence

On Monday November 12 we still sit in our own garden with our hands from the cold but warm up the fire and we have been there since then and we have been here. There was a broken fence and we had to go into a police station and take care of the door. Sir I want to tell you that after all the time I have been here I have not seen any other people come in or out.

The alleged assailants of Mr. Heseltine were rounded up by police. At the moment no arrests have been made. Sir I am not yet known to have been here. He was held in a cell. Well I am glad to see that the police are doing their job. Sir I am not so sure about the other half hammering him in private - Sir Keith Joseph has to face his Education Committee. Whatever the outcome, fight or fudge, he will not enjoy it very much.

While Sir Keith tries to rescue himself, others are trying to rescue the Government from the wider effects of this latest political embarrassment. As student grants follow foreign aid and civil aviation, journalists are being lectured on the inevitability of "this sort of thing happening" when the Parliamentary majority is large and the prospects for personal promotion slight. It is argued, rightly, that there is a benefit for the democratic process when recent opposition from the Government benches fills the Parliamentary ground evacuated by an official Opposition paraded by Mr Scargill.

Yet the Government should be careful of this approach. Mr Francis Pym has been proved correct in his pre-election comment about the danger of a large majority. But the true implications of his prophecy remain neglected.

For too long the Government has lived on its Whips. Currently the Whips' office - headed by Mr John Cope while Mr John Wakeham continues his recovery from the Brighton bomb - is recognized to be one of the best



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NOT BY WHIPS ALONE

The decision to raise the cash contribution of middle-class parents to their student offspring has proved sensitive on the Conservative back benches. Today - with one half of his Parliamentary party publicly against him and much of the other half hammering him in private - Sir Keith Joseph has to face his Education Committee. Whatever the outcome, fight or fudge, he will not enjoy it very much.

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SETTING THE PACE IN HONG KONG

The Commons will debate the Anglo-Chinese draft agreement on Hong Kong tomorrow and will almost certainly endorse it. The vast majority of local people have made clear they would prefer some kind of agreement to having none at all; and this is the only one there is. Moreover the Hong Kong community has eased the task for MPs by indicating in opinion polls and last week's official Assessment White Paper that they find its terms acceptable.

This is not however to dismiss or diminish the worries which remain. These include, among many others, questions of nationality, land ownership, defence and above all, human rights. Some of these need only clarification, bearing in mind that the draft, though more detailed than many had feared likely, is still only the matrix within which a whole new set of relationships must develop. Others will be more difficult. There already exist in Hong Kong regulations which could be used to curb freedom of the Press given a less tolerant regime than the present one. Can one really see Hong Kong's liberal Press being allowed in 1997 to conduct a campaign against, say, maladministration in Peking?

A forum for addressing such concerns will exist in the Anglo-Chinese Joint Liaison Group which will be set up next year after ratification of the agreement. At one time dreaded by Hong Kong people as a means by which the People's Republic would interfere in the colony's affairs sooner rather than later,

Public spending

From Mr Peter Hordern, MP for Horsham (Conservative)
Sir, It seems to me that you (leaders, November 8) and Mr Plowden (letter, November 15) are right, and Mr Shapiro (November 26) wrong, about controlling public expenditure. It is a messy process at present, for two reasons, I think.

First, there is no overall view of Government expenditure to see whether the functions of Government departments are necessary or to assess their relative importance one to another, nor whether what they do could not better be done by tax incentives. Regional grants are an obvious example.

This week we shall learn the results of yet another departmental review of regional grants from within the Department of Industry. There is no machinery to consider whether the abolition of employer's national insurance contributions in the regions might serve employment better than regional grants, nor any possibility that the Department of Industry might propose that regional grants be dropped.

What is required, I think, is a Cabinet committee, served by a small office, to consider all Government expenditure and its value to society, both absolutely and relatively, between one department and another. Such a Cabinet committee would consider expenditure and recommend priorities which could then be discussed and agreed by the Cabinet as a whole. And, I think, published.

That process would help to avoid government by shock, such as the increase in student contributions just announced.

And the second reform would be to publish both the public expenditure and the financial statements at the same time, say in February.

the post-war party has had. But there is a limit to its ability to control restless MPs whose personal political disappointments are matched by dissatisfaction with the performance of ministers who have been given advancement over them.

The senior back-bench "wets" have not made their critique of Government policy any more cogent and they may still be uncoordinated in their attacks. They are, however, unmissable in the Westminster corridors while the Government's committed supporters are much easier to miss - all the more so in the absence of Mr Tebbit and Mr Wakeham.

No one should think that this year has been one of bad management by the Whips. If anything there has been too much Party discipline and too little self-confident persuasion from the centre of Government to its outer circles. The election of Mr Cranley Onslow to replace the increasingly distant Mr du Cann at the head of the 1922 Committee may play a part in improving communications from the outside to the centre. But the Prime Minister's second-term Parliamentary Private Secretary, Mr Michael Alison, has not yet managed to emulate Mr Gow's successful communications in the opposite direction.

Mrs Thatcher has to treat her Parliamentary Party with caution, if not respect. She may think that she has only a few dozen MPs and advisers who stand four-square with her views. But she is not the first Prime Minister to be in that position. Nor will she be the last.

the Group now looks like becoming an essential means of communication in the transfer of power.

But this will still leave parliament with an important responsibility. Unofficial members of Hong Kong's executive and legislative councils (Umelco) - in effect the colony's MPs - are demanding local participation in the Group. But they will still need from time to time the support of Westminster as well as Whitehall, if they are to stand any chance of allaying the fears of Hong Kong people - fears which Umelco are explaining to the Government and all major parties in London this week.

Guarantees for the territory after 1997 will remain blurred at the edges at least until Peking has drafted the new Basic Law - a process which is expected to continue for most of the 1980s. But both the full Commons and its Select Committee on Foreign Affairs must meanwhile keep closely in touch with the colony's fears and aspirations and the Government should be generous in allocating parliamentary time.

We must be similarly generous too towards those who, both before and after 1997, cannot face life under Communist rule - however benevolent. Only 20,000 people in Hong Kong have automatic right of abode in this country while many of the two million more with British Dependent Territory citizenship are now seeking similar bolt-holes, if not here then in countries like Canada and Australia. But there are many who

cannot afford this kind of insurance against things going badly wrong in post-Deng China. Even though Britain is in no position to open its doors to such numbers we will have to be prepared to treat such an emergency, if it happens, with particular humanity and urgency.

The White Paper on representative government in the colony took a cautious step forward by providing for indirect elections for 24 unofficial members of the Legislative Council next year. This careful measured pace of change satisfies most of the local electorate. But the pace must surely accelerate if a generation of political leaders is to emerge in time to take over from Britain in 13 years. If not, Peking will do it for them and the acceleration could then be quite dramatic.

Psychologically Britain and Hong Kong should look upon 1997 as a consummation devoutly to be wished, not as a chimera to be wished away. Relations between the territory and China - now its second biggest trading partner - are burgeoning and will continue to do so for at least as long as Peking needs this tiny capitalist enclave on its door-step. But China is also potentially the world's biggest single market and the opportunities for Hong Kong industry - and British industry too - should not be lightly regarded. In that sense the 1997 date should not be regarded as a deadline, but only as one further point in a continuous process of adjustment which has already started.

What the real focus of discussion should therefore include is how to raise (significantly - or by order of magnitude) the level of resource allocation, and, equally importantly, careful examination of the best means of distribution/allocation of such funds. Where it is self-evident that there is a large shortfall in skills and appropriate manpower resource then that should in itself become the most urgent priority, but seen against a much greater scale of commitment.

In an international setting I would make two further points: first, at present there is much discussion of Britain's level of overseas aid to Third World countries and fears of its erosion. If the UK does not get its IT, industrial, commercial and manufacturing base right then there will be precious little to redistribute.

Second (and more fundamentally) the majority of Third World countries - and many OECD nations - have suffered tremendously from the deficits and trade imbalances ensuing from Opec (Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries); a second and much more structural imbalance is just around the corner with respect to IT.

In such a context unless Britain and Europe - achieve a much greater presence and adequate performance in this area, unless subsequent trade balances are restored, much global misery awaits. This can, of course, be discussed in several contexts: the "North", the "South" and globally. ITT, Alvey and university new-blood schemes remain only as stepping stones.

Yours faithfully,
THOMAS G. WHISTON,
University of Sussex,
Science Policy Research Unit,
Mintel Building,
Falmer,
Brighton,
East Sussex.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Case for silence on infant deaths?

From the President and the Hon Secretary of the British Paediatric Association

Sir, We have read - we could hardly avoid reading - the well-publicized views of Dr Wayne. Even if we were right - and we believe him to be wrong - we feel that he should not have expressed his views publicly. There is much to be said for the old-fashioned virtue of reticence, unpopular though it is today.

Paediatricians have always been aware of the existence of infanticide. There is no means of distinguishing between accidental and non-accidental suffocation at post-mortem examination. But ordinary clinical experience suggests that even a suspicion of responsibility is rare in the parents of infants who die unexpectedly.

To saddle the great majority of innocent bereaved parents with the suspicion of responsibility is to add insult to tragic injury. The cause of the great majority of sudden unexpected deaths in infancy has yet to be determined.

Yours etc,
PETER TIZARD, President,
TIMOTHY L. CHAMBERS,
Hon Secretary,
British Paediatric Association,
23 Queen Square, WC1.
November 29.

Point of departure

From Mr Joe Haines

Sir, In your leading article today (December 1) about former prime ministers you say: "The facts underlying the resignation of Lord Wilson of Rievaulx remain an enigma to this day."

Fact. Had Labour won the general election of June 18, 1970, it was Mr Wilson's intention to stand down after two years.

Fact. On March 1, 1974, when it was clear he would be returning to Downing Street, Mr Wilson told me, the then Mrs Marcia Williams, Dr Bernard Donoughue and Mr Terence Lancaster that he only intended to stay for two years.

Fact. The following March he repeated to his personal staff his intention to retire. Indeed, he wanted to advance the day. Mrs Williams (by then Lady Falkender) quite properly, in my view, dissuaded him from going that summer or at the time of the party conference in October.

Fact. At that conference Mr Wilson instructed me and his principal private secretary, Mr (now Sir) Kenneth Stowe, to draw up a timetable for his retirement, starting at the end of the following February, which would be a model for future retirements from the party leadership (now overtaken, unfortunately, by the electoral college). That document was in his hands early in November. Our projected day for his retirement was April 3, 1976, the exact day of departure. For greater historical accuracy, I retained a copy.

What other facts do you want? Yours sincerely,
JOE HAINES,
7 Haef Shaw,
Tonbridge, Kent.
December 1.

Student grants

From Mrs Heather S. Buss

Sir, When we "brain-drained" from the USA back to England in the seventies so that our children, like us, would have the privilege of growing up to be British, I little thought that in the eighties I might regret the decision then made in patriotic fervour.

Now, as I too, look around at the great divide between South and North, between employed and unemployed and, above all, at the frightening increase in all forms of mindless extremism, I feel defeated.

In particular, it seems ironic that we no longer may be able to afford to send our daughter to university to achieve her lifelong ambition without great financial hardship. It is psychologically ill-advised that, as a result of the changes in student grants, an 18-year-old should be given the responsibilities of an adult but not the privileges and have to remain totally dependent on his or her parents.

It is unjust that we have only until October, 1985, to try to adjust our finances, yet again we find ourselves caught in the middle-class economic trap.

We look around us and see others with perks such as cars, lower mortgages, private medical insurance and even education, whereas my husband, as a civil servant, receives no such benefits. Nor are we able to manipulate the system as do who are involved in small businesses.

Even more ridiculous is the situation in which we now find ourselves where it may well be financially more practicable for me to discontinue my work to change our income bracket; that, in order for our daughter to receive some form of grant, I would voluntarily have to join the growing ranks of the unemployed.

Yours faithfully,
HEATHER S. BUSS,
5 Howard Close,
Fleet, Hampshire.

By any other hue

From Mr Donald Cross

Sir, As a supporter of the Labour Party, I note with interest that The Times rose planned for 1985 will have a "pinkish" hue (report, November 27).

Horticulturists still struggle to produce a rose that blooms blue and stays blue.

You will perhaps allow me, Sir, to say that I rarely see you encountering the same difficulty.

Yours faithfully,
DONALD CROSS,
8 Sherwood Close,
Exeter, Devon.

Prospect of VAT on publications

From Dr George A. Weir

Sir, I hesitate to add to the volume of correspondence on the subject of the possible taxation of printed matter, but I feel that a compromise exists which seems to have certain advantages over some of the alternatives. This is to alter the VAT status of educational institutions at the same time that changes are made in the status of printing and publishing.

At present educational services are exempt from VAT: the change I would propose would be to zero-rate them. Many of your correspondents have rightly pointed out the iniquity of a tax on knowledge". Sir, such a tax already exists in the form of the VAT which cannot at present be recovered on the inputs of taxed items (such as equipment, telephone bills and the like).

Zero-rating of the educational sector would not diminish the overall revenue from VAT greatly, but would remove the cost implications for scholarly research of imposing the standard rate of VAT on printed matter. Indeed, as a number of educational institutions already play an important role in the preservation of our national architectural heritage, the change in their VAT status would also provide a modest reduction in the cost of funding.

It is illogical to grant favoured tax status to one sector of consumer expenditure at the expense of other forms of activity, and outside education or the purchase of professional books by firms or practices which already fall within the VAT net, the bulk of the printing and publishing market is largely for entertainment why should I, when I board a train, be taxed on the bottle of whisky which I drink on my trip but not the paperback which I also pick up to while away the hours?

The late Sir Gerald Narborough succeeded in identifying the anomalies of the old system of purchase tax: VAT, which is fundamentally simpler, should not be allowed to collect a similar bunch of anomalies.

Yours sincerely,
GEORGE WEIR,
Webster Industrial Technology,
Linton,
4a St Andrew Square,
Edinburgh,
November 21.

From the Secretary General of the International Publishers Association

Sir, The possible imposition of VAT on books in the UK has been discussed in the columns of your newspaper. May I state the case again changing the present zero-rating on books?

Taxation allows the state to carry out numerous obligations that individuals alone cannot fulfil, such as internal security, defence, justice, general education. The individual has to feed, house and clothe himself without external intervention unless in exceptional circumstances. The easier and cheaper the access to the tools of education, such as books, the better employment the individual will be able to find - and the more income tax he will pay.

Knowledge is already taxed by all the various taxes on other goods that knowledge produces: therefore VAT on books is double taxation on knowledge.

Another argument is that at least all the "pap" should be taxed. But our century has produced too many judges and censors of thought and the written word. Would it be right in 1984 for Britain to begin to listen to such invidious arguments, so far successfully rejected?

British voters should demand that their members of Parliament in Strasbourg request that VAT on books should be zero-rated throughout Europe, following the example of Great Britain, Ireland and Norway.

It is time it was understood at Strasbourg and Brussels that all supplementary taxation on knowledge is going to widen the gap between Europe and its major competitors, to the detriment of Europe.

Yours faithfully,
J. A. KOUTCHOUmov,
Secretary General,
International Publishers
Association,
Avenue de Miremont 3,
1206 Geneva,
Switzerland.
November 20.

Conditional aid

From Mr James Mark

Sir, You have devoted more than one leading article recently to aid policy and its relationship (or, as you might prefer to argue, its non-relationship) to the economic development of the Third World. The subject does, indeed, deserve more public discussion than it gets, but I have been depressed and perplexed by your determined accumulation of negative comment, which seems to have no more substantial theme than the argument (true enough as far as it goes) that if we do give aid we ought to ensure that we get value for money.

The reason for my depression and perplexity, I have concluded, is that you leave out of account the main factor: the moral obligation on rich nations to help poor ones, especially when several hundred millions of people in the latter lack the minimum means of subsistence. This is something more lasting (and therefore more important) than the need to help in times of famine or other disasters, it is a permanent fact of international life. The question is whether or not we are prepared to recognize it as imposing obligations upon us as a nation.

There is no reason why acceptance of such an obligation should close our eyes to the complexities of the development process or the things that go wrong - or, of course, to the need to ensure as best we can that our aid isn't wasted. The political economy of Third World development and the relationships that it involves (as I know from my own experience) are immensely complex.

Third world countries vary enormously in their needs, their will to develop, their claims to help, their political and administrative capacity and their capacity to use external aid. Donor countries use aid for political, commercial or strategic purposes and an analysis of their aid programmes shows some very odd phenomena indeed.

International institutions vary, no doubt, in their efficiency, though (despite your criticisms) the International Bank Group, which gets a large slice of our mult

ARD JAMES
of Surrealism
By drawing Brecht and
away from Germany in
particular time the Hitler
the following effect of
them, and the designer
Nehru from a
camp.

James extended his pattern
of the performances and
include poems among
Salvador Dalí, René Magritte,
Pavel Tchelitchew and
Fernand Léger. His support took the
output on art to its
this way he gradually established
what came to be seen
as the finest collection
of surrealism work in private
collections.

He also sponsored a
surrealist magazine, *Mars*,
published in Paris by
him between 1925 and 1928
as one of the leading figures
in the surrealist movement.
His reputation largely rests
on this.

But his influence was
confined to the arts. His
support of the British
airline's flotation was
concerned. He originally
could find no donor willing
to turn to Edward King
who with characteristic
generosity, at once offered a
40 acre site of a property
at West Dean.

In the 1960s James gave
charitable educational trust
Edward James Foundation
which he visited many
possessions in the UK
including his former home
West Dean Park, and the six
acre West Dean estate left
with his collection of art.
In 1972 the house
converted into a residential
college for teaching
fostering a wide range of
arts and crafts.

A number of the paintings
James collected have
been sold over the years
for charitable purposes.

TANCE MAGOGO
combined a career as
the American Ambassador
speaking English and
deep attachment to
tradition.

She was born in 1905
at the capital, Nairobi.
Zulu was a fierce
tribe that demanded
the visitors to become
a Zulu man, a step
extending back to
centuries. She had
digested the culture
ranging from the
shamanistic to the
shoulder-padded to the
classical.

Her son, Edward
King, was born in
Kenya in 1933. He
was educated at
University College
London and
graduated in
1955. He has
been a member
of the Royal
Society of
Arts since
1960.

TEHOUSE
He was born in
1905 in Kenya
and died in
1984. He
was a member
of the Royal
Society of
Arts since
1960.

THE TIMES FINANCIAL TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

New capital needed for a clean BA takeoff

Apart from the bald profit figures, there was not much of substance to come out of yesterday's interim statement from British Airways. This is hardly surprising, even for an airline that is set to relaunch itself later today in a new coat of many colours. (Background, page 22).

With privatization only a matter of months away, not only are Lord King and his fellow directors operating in the shadow of the US Securities and Exchange Commission and other guardians of the prospectus, they are also still negotiating final details of the flotation package with Whitehall.

Lord King made it clear yesterday that he would not be showing his hand in public on such crucial questions as the pre-sale restructuring of the airline's balance sheet until the argument with Government officials has been won or lost. The notional target date for launching BA on the stock market is still mid-February. Thus there is precious little time left for the airline and the Department of Transport to settle their differences, if the target is to be met.

It is a tribute to the new regime at BA that it is not the P & L account which is causing the problem. Yesterday's figures showed that the six-month operating surplus is £236 million, against £198 million last time. The pretax figure emerges as £189 million, against £150 million. The first half is always BA's best, so the year as a whole will not produce double the half-time outcome - nothing like. Nevertheless it will be more than adequate for stock market sale purposes.

Traffic volume was up by a healthy 11.4 per cent in passenger terms, 9.6 per cent in revenue passenger kilometres.

Freight, mail and cargo, the ancillary businesses, all turned in good performance. The improvement in yields was less marked at 4.8 per cent, reflecting the fact that BA has been attracting most of its new customers at the low margin economy class end of its aircraft. At around 65 per cent, load factors are pushing the maximum which BA can realistically hope to sustain. Profits growth in future will have to come increasingly from higher prices or falling costs (of which lower interest charges will be the most significant).

The arguments with Whitehall fall into a number of categories. Lord King appears to have won his battle to avoid complicating the actual flotation by trying to lure the small man with shareholder perks such as cut-price tickets. Any such scheme, while laudable in intent and fashionable

after Telecom, would be too complex and legally dangerous to be worth risking in this case, BA feels. The BA board would like a broad mix of institutional and private shareholders: the time to give them perks, it believes, is after flotation.

The real battle is over the balance sheet, where progress so far appears to be slow. BA wants to cut its debt-equity ratio from 73/27 per cent now to 25/75 per cent on or immediately after flotation day, implying a fairly hefty injection of new capital. Much, if not all of this would be recouped by the Government in the form of higher sale proceeds. The Government's opening shot has been to say (as ever) "no new money". There will inevitably be an eventual compromise that both parties will swear is satisfactory: but for the time being the two camps are standing their ground.

BA's wish appears to be to see the company valued at £1,000 million, with the Government taking roughly £500 million of net proceeds and the balance going into the balance sheet in one form or another.

Meanwhile lawyers, civil servants and BA itself are working themselves into a lather over the question of potential overseas ownership of the airline. Partly this is the perennial question of whether or not to market the airline's shares in New York and other foreign centres.

It is clear that BA is even more suited as a stock for the American market than is BT, and it seems inevitable that a larger chunk of the issue will be reserved for foreigners than the 13.7 per cent of Telecom which was underwritten abroad last weekend. This is where the complications begin.

The post-war treaties which govern most of BA's international operations are based on the assumption that "substantial ownership" and "effective control" of the airline resides in Britain. The argument now raging is over how to draft the articles of association so as to prevent a putative loss of control by British interests. The spectre of non-voting shares for overseas buyers and shares which entail a loss of voting rights at the board's whim raising their heads. They are sufficiently important to have been on the agenda of yesterday's BA board meeting.

Lawyers are divided on what constitutes effective control. The one certainty is that there will be a "golden share" for the Government to block unwanted takeovers, but that by itself is not enough. BA did confirm yesterday that the plan remains to sell 100 per cent of the airline.

The Times securities conference

In two years the Stock Exchange will have been transformed in ways far more radical than either the Stock Exchange Council or the then Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, Mr. Cecil Parkinson, imagined when in July last year they did their deal: the abolition of stockbrokers' minimum commissions in exchange for the Government's calling off proceedings in the Restrictive Practices Court. Winds of change in the Stock Exchange and the City at large are blowing from other directions too.

Our leading firm of chartered accountants, Peat Marwick, have therefore joined with *The Times* in arranging a one-day conference to consider "New Rules in a Changing Securities Market." The conference, which has attracted a dazzling array of expert speakers, will be held at the InterContinental Hotel on February 5 next.

The intention is to analyse current

developments in the operation and regulation of the securities markets. Speakers will review changes in the rules and practice affecting public offerings of securities in the light of new legislation (The Stock Exchange (Listing) Regulations 1984), the issue of a revised Stock Exchange Yellow Book, and the Government White Paper on investor protection. They will also examine the current realignment of City organizations.

The conference is addressed to the City-brokers, bankers, market-makers, dealers, accountants, lawyers and other professional advisers, to directors and senior executives of listed companies; and to proprietors and advisers of growing companies who may be considering going public.

Would those wishing to attend (cost £150 plus VAT) or who would like more information, please contact: Mrs. P. D. Austin, Peat Marwick, No. 1 Puddle Dock, Blackfriars, London EC4V 3PD.

The deal has been struck at an interest rate equivalent to 11.7 per cent.

The £7 million will be repaid in full after three years which enables 3% to defer the tax on its income until the end of the third year and because the Budget has indicated that corporation tax at that time is likely to be around 35 per cent. For William Collins the funding allows it to have immediate cash and use money in the business which would otherwise go to interest payments. It can also offset against tax over the three years the discount between the loan raised and the proceeds received.

A spokesman for 3is said last night: "the reduction in corporation tax promised over the next three years makes these deep-discounted bonds particularly attractive at this time".

Collins uses new method of funding

By Philip Robinson

William Collins, the publisher, has raised £7 million with a non-interest bearing deep-discounted unsecured loan in stock. This type of funding is believed to be among the first of its kind to take advantage of corporation tax cuts announced in the last Budget.

The group, where News International, the owner of *Times Newspapers Ltd.*, has a 41.68 per cent stake, has placed £19.9 million on the loan with investors in Industry (3is) as part of a restructuring of bank borrowings and provision of further medium-term loans.

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Turnaround at Massey

By Philip Robinson

Massey-Ferguson made a net profit of US \$4.4 million (£3.6 million) for the third quarter ended October 31, against a net loss of \$1.9 million in the same period a year ago.

Mr. Victor Rice, chairman and chief executive, said the fourth quarter was traditionally poor for the industry and he did not expect any real pick-up in the period.

Net income for the first nine months of Massey-Ferguson's financial year was \$14.2 million on sales of \$1,131 million, compared with a net loss of \$41.1 million on sales of \$1,173 million in the same period in 1983.

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'Vendor placings' study

By Our City Staff

The National Association of Pension Funds has asked its standing committee to examine the principle of whether big corporations should issue large numbers of shares via a "vendor placing" to pay for acquisitions.

This method of raising cash involves issuing new shares to the vendor of a company which are immediately placed with institutions for cash.

Normally, companies issue shares which represent only single figure percentages of the total shares in the company. However,

however, a new record will be struck by the Dee Corporation if proposals to issue 113

million new shares go through. These will raise £180 million to pay for the International Stores and increase Dees' share capital by more than 40 per cent.

The deal was the third

Several fund managers argued that such large sums

should be raised by the tra-

ditional route of a rights issue

which treats all shareholders

alike and allows those who wish

to maintain their percentage

stake in the company. Howev-

er, a split now seems to be

emerging between those man-

agers of pension fund money

and the large insurance fund

managers.

MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

Argentina and banks agree \$16bn loan refinancing

From Douglas Tweedale, Buenos Aires

Argentina has reached an important agreement with its foreign creditors to refinance \$16 billion (£13 billion) of its \$45 billion debt. It will receive close to \$5.5 billion in fresh credit to meet balance of payments deficits next year.

The banks will also contribute \$4.2 billion of fresh loans

over a 10-year maturity, and a

three-year grace period.

An additional \$1 billion will come from official lending agencies of the creditor nations and \$270 million from the IMF.

The agreement comes after nearly a year of sometimes acrimonious negotiations in which Argentina sought to renegotiate its crippling debt burdens without having harsh austerity measures imposed by the IMF.

The banks have agreed to

refinance \$11 billion of public

sector debt and \$5 billion of

private debt falling due between

1982 and 1985. Those loans will

be rolled over for 12 years with

a three-year grace period.

The deal includes what Argentine officials said were more lenient terms than those obtained in a frustrated negotia-

tion effort by the outgoing military government last year.

Señor García Vásquez said "friendly nations" had inter-

vened to make the agreement

possible.

However, the accord is likely

to draw criticism from

Argentine's powerful Peronist

labour unions, most of which

are completing internal elec-

tions to renew their leadership.

It is an important political

achievement for President Raúl Alfonsín, who had vowed to

overcome the debt problem under

control before he celebrates a

year in office next Monday.

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overcome the debt problem under

control before he

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

Money was tight yesterday. It opened on 9½% per cent, but eased to 9¾% per cent by 10 am.

That level held for the rest of the morning. Money became more comfortable in the afternoon, with a rate of 8½-6½ per cent established towards the end of the lunchtime period.

As the authorities piled up their assistance to the market, so rates eased further, and 6-3 per cent shortly before the close.

Base Rates (%)
Cleared Banks 9½-9¾
Finance House 10½
Discount Bank Loans
Overseas Banks 9½-9¾
Week 9½-9¾

Treasury Bills (Discount %)
Buying 9½-9¾
2 months 9½-9¾
3 months 9½-9¾

Prime Bank Bills (Discount %)
1 month 9½-9¾
3 months 9½-9¾

Trade Bills (Discount %)
1 month 9½-9¾
2 months 9½-9¾
3 months 9½-9¾

Interbank (%)
1 week 9½-9¾
1 month 9½-9¾
3 months 9½-9¾

Local Authority Deposits (%)
2 days 9½-9¾
1 month 9½-9¾
6 months 9½-9¾

Local Authority Bonds (%)
1 month 10½-11½
3 months 10½-11½
9 months 10½-11½

Sterling CDs (%)
1 month 9½-9¾
3 months 9½-9¾
6 months 9½-9¾

Dollar CDs (%)
1 month 9½-9¾
3 months 9½-9¾
6 months 9½-9¾

There was less concern at the end of the day, and rates mostly regained their overnight positions.

Dollar CDs (%)
1 month 9½-9¾
3 months 9½-9¾
6 months 9½-9¾

Euro-Currency Deposits (%)
Buying 9½-9¾
2 months 9½-9¾
3 months 9½-9¾

Deutschmark 9½-9¾
3 days 9½-9¾
3 months 9½-9¾

French Franc 9½-9¾
3 days 9½-9¾
1 month 9½-9¾

Swiss Franc 9½-9¾
3 days 9½-9¾
1 month 9½-9¾

Yen 9½-9¾
3 months 9½-9¾

Gold

Kruegerland (per comt.)
\$340-341.50 (244-265.25)

Special Gold 9½-9¾
\$78-79 (125-126)

*Excludes VAT

ECGD

Fived Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme 1/4

Average rate for interest period 3 October 1984 to 4 November 1984, inclusive of 10 b.p. margin

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Market rates
Day's range

December 3 1984 1985 1986

New York 1.1940-1.1950 1.1940-1.1950 1.1920-1.1930

Amsterdam 1.601-1.602 1.601-1.602 1.601-1.602

Brussels 1.475-1.476 1.475-1.476 1.475-1.476

Copenhagen 1.374-1.375 1.374-1.375 1.374-1.375

Dublin 1.1533-1.1550 1.1533-1.1550 1.1533-1.1550

Frankfurt 1.7668-1.7700 1.7668-1.7700 1.7668-1.7700

London 1.7200-1.7230 1.7200-1.7230 1.7200-1.7230

Munich 2.05-2.06 2.05-2.06 2.05-2.06

Milan 2.291-2.295 2.291-2.295 2.291-2.295

Doha 1.5350-1.5370 1.5350-1.5370 1.5350-1.5370

Stockholm 1.5230-1.5500 1.5230-1.5500 1.5230-1.5500

Tokyo 2.95-2.96 2.95-2.96 2.95-2.96

Vienna 3.0510-3.0729 3.0510-3.0729 3.0510-3.0729

Sterling index compared with 1975 was down 0.4 at 74.5 (day's range 74.5-74.4).

OTHER STERLING RATES

Argentina peso 167.89

Australia dollar 1.967-1.979

Bahrain dinar 1.446-1.456

Brazil cruzeiro 1.25-1.26

Cyprus pound 0.7490-0.7590

Finland markka 1.7145-1.7250

Greece drachma 1.50-1.52

Hongkong dollar 0.3511-0.3614

India rupee 14.52-14.72

Indonesia rupiah 2.4765-2.4865

Malaysia ringgit 2.8805-2.8865

Norway kroner 220-225

New Zealand dollar 2.4233-2.4257

Singapore dollar 2.9520-2.9581

South Africa rand 2.4020-2.4025

United Arab Emirates dirham 1.4360-1.4365

Rates supplied by Barclays Bank HOFEX ank

World Bank moots \$1bn Africa fund

By Michael Prest

World Bank officials are urgently discussing with leading donor countries the practicality of raising an emergency \$1.00 million (£830) fund for Africa. Mr Moeen Qureshi, the bank's senior vice-president for finance, said in London yesterday.

But Mr Qureshi, who has been on a European tour in recent weeks, stressed that far from being merely charity, concessionary loans from the suggested fund would only be made to countries which agree to policy reforms.

Although the fund, which bank officials prefer to call a "facility", has still to be proposed formally to various governments, it is likely that the cash would be provided over three years and that the call will be made on donors only once.

Mr Qureshi met Mr Timo Raison, Minister for Overseas Development, on Friday, and held talks with Treasury officials yesterday. The British Government is understood to be sympathetic to the idea but is uncertain about how easily it can make a contribution.

The Overseas Development Administration sources say that they are unlikely to commit themselves until a formal proposal is received. They also want to know whether the bank will launch another initiative to set up a supplementary fund for the ill-fated seventh replenishment of the International Development Association.

But the Africa fund, if it comes to fruition, would be a departure in several respects. Cash will not be provided pro rata to economic size, as is the

case with normal World Bank funds. Recipients may have to buy goods from the fund donors and conditions attached to loans could be the turning point in inducing policy changes in Africa. Malawi, Uganda, Guinea, Togo, Zambia and Senegal could be among early beneficiaries.

The fund is the direct

outcome of the World Bank's report entitled "Towards Sustained Development in Sub-Saharan Africa", published earlier this year. The report identified a transfer gap of \$2,000 million. The fund has been well received by the Nordic countries, Australia, Canada, France, Italy and Holland. Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates and Kuwait are also sympathetic.

● Watney Mann & Truman Brewers: Mr Geoffrey Parsons has been appointed managing director of Watney Combe Reid & Co.

Billiton UK: Mr Peter Mereith, head of commercial division has been appointed to the board.

COMMODITIES

| | Nov | 2222-15 | LEAD | Vol | 150 |
|---|--------------|--------------------|---|-------|-------|
| Rubber E's per tonne; | 2220-2220 | Cash 300.00-320.00 | Cash 300.00-320.00 | 150 | 150 |
| Coffee, cocoa, sugar in pounds per metric ton; | 180-180 | Vol 320.50-330.00 | Vol 320.50-330.00 | 6,000 | 6,000 |
| Per metric tonne; | 180 | T/0 100 | T/0 100 | | |
| | | Emmer | Emmer | | |
| | | | | | |
| | Dec | 2228-2229 | MEAT AND LIVESTOCK COMMISSION | Vol | 150 |
| Rubber E's per tonne; | 2227.50-2228 | Cash 680.00-700.00 | Average fatstock prices at representative abattoirs on December 2. | 150 | 150 |
| Coffee, cocoa, sugar in pounds per metric ton; | 180-180 | T/0 684.00-690.00 | | 150 | 150 |
| Per metric tonne; | 180 | T/0 100 | GB: Cattle, 95.97p per kg Live weight. GB: Sheep, 185.42p per kg est'd at 1.05% GB: Pigs, 90.15p per kg Live weight. | | |
| | | | | | |
| | Jan | 2229-2230 | ZINC HIGH GRADE | Vol | 150 |
| Rubber E's per tonne; | 2228.50-2229 | Cash 100.00-102.00 | 150 | 150 | |
| Coffee, cocoa, sugar in pounds per metric ton; | 180-180 | T/0 100.00-102.00 | | 150 | 150 |
| Per metric tonne; | 180 | T/0 100 | GB: Cattle, 95.97p per kg per Live weight. GB: Sheep, 185.42p per kg est'd at 1.05% GB: Pigs, 90.15p per kg Live weight. | | |
| | Feb | 2230-2231 | ZINC STANDARD | Vol | 150 |
| Rubber E's per tonne; | 2229.50-2230 | Cash 84.00-84.50 | 150 | 150 | |
| Coffee, cocoa, sugar in pounds per metric ton; | 180-180 | T/0 84.00-84.50 | | 150 | 150 |
| Per metric tonne; | 180 | T/0 100 | GB: Cattle, 95.97p per kg per Live weight. GB: Sheep, 185.42p per kg est'd at 1.05% GB: Pigs, 90.15p per kg Live weight. | | |
| | Mar | 2231-2232 | SILVER LARGE | Vol | 150 |
| Rubber E's per tonne; | 2230.50-2231 | Cash 588.5-590.5 | 150 | 150 | |
| Coffee, cocoa, sugar in pounds per metric ton; | 180-180 | T/0 588.5-590.5 | | 150 | 150 |
| Per metric tonne; | 180 | T/0 100 | GB: Cattle, 95.97p per kg per Live weight. GB: Sheep, 185.42p per kg est'd at 1.05% GB: Pigs, 90.15p per kg Live weight. | | |
| | Apr | 2232-2233 | ZINC SMALL | Vol | 150 |
| Rubber E's per tonne; | 2231.50-2232 | Cash 588.5-590.5 | 150 | 150 | |
| Coffee, cocoa, sugar in pounds per metric ton; | 180-180 | T/0 588.5-590.5 | | 150 | 150 |
| Per metric tonne; | 180 | T/0 100 | GB: Cattle, 95.97p per kg per Live weight. GB: Sheep, 185.42p per kg est'd at 1.05% GB: Pigs, 90.15p per kg Live weight. | | |
| | May | 2233-2234 | COPPER HIGH GRADE | Vol | 150 |
| Rubber E's per tonne; | 2232.50-2233 | Cash 108.00-109.00 | 150 | 150 | |
| Coffee, cocoa, sugar in pounds per metric ton; | 180-180 | T/0 108.00-109.00 | | 150 | 150 |
| Per metric tonne; | 180 | T/0 100 | GB: Cattle, 95.97p per kg per Live weight. GB: Sheep, 185.42p per kg est'd at 1.05% GB: Pigs, 90.15p per kg Live weight. | | |
| | Jun | 2234-2235 | RUBBER | Vol | 150 |
| Rubber E's per tonne; | 2233.50-2234 | Cash 645-645 | 150 | 150 | |
| Coffee, cocoa, sugar in pounds per metric ton; | 180-180 | T/0 645-645 | | 150 | 150 |
| Per metric tonne; | 180 | T/0 100 | GB: Cattle, 95.97p per kg per Live weight. GB: Sheep, 185.42p per kg est'd at 1.05% GB: Pigs, 90.15p per kg Live weight. | | |
| | Jul | 2235-2236 | STANDARD | Vol | 150 |
| Rubber E's per tonne; | 2234.50-2235 | Cash 645-645 | 150 | 150 | |
| Coffee, cocoa, sugar in pounds per metric ton; | 180-180 | T/0 645-645 | | 150 | 150 |
| Per metric tonne; | 180 | T/0 100 | GB: Cattle, 95.97p per kg per Live weight. GB: Sheep, 185.42p per kg est'd at 1.05% GB: Pigs, 90. | | |

interest rates, the stock market remained weak as investors focused on the slowing economy and on the implications in the tax laws. "Thus we can probably expect difficult market conditions," says one source.

International Business Group General Motors up 10% to 12%

Business Week

Automotive

Technology boost for Strathclyde

By Our City Staff

A scheme which pays up to 80 per cent of the cost of retraining workers whose companies introduce new technologies is being developed by Strathclyde Regional Council.

Eight companies are now having 138 staff trained at a cost of £23,000. A further 70 companies have applied to join the scheme.

The assistance is available to firms in Strathclyde with up to 500 employees, but if trainers are under 25 there is no limit to the size of the company. The £750,000 cost is being shared by the council and the European Social Fund.

The companies which have been helped include Glenfield and Kennedy of Kilmarnock. Its managing director, Mr Dennis Richmond, said: "A total of 115 employees will gain new skills during our two-year training programme. Strathclyde will provide financial assistance towards the cost of 20 of these employees each year."

"Without the help it would have taken more than three years to train each employee in new skills from the internal revenues generated by the company."

Mr Charles Poskett of British Leyland's Albion Plant in Scotstoun, Glasgow, said: "We are embarking on a major investment programme in the coming year involving the purchase of a number of computer numerically controlled machines and other facilities.

"The grant has enabled us to provide quality training."

Gerald Ronson honoured

Mr Gerald Ronson, chairman of Heron International, was yesterday named 1984 "Businessman of the Year."

The award, sponsored by Hambros Bank in aid of joint British cancer charities, was presented at a lunch attended by Mr Nigel Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, and leading personalities from industry, commerce and the City.

The citation praises Mr Ronson's "vision, determination and sheer hard work" in bringing Heron from modest beginnings to become "one of largest and most influential private companies in Europe."

By Stephen Lewis

Falling interest rates and a slowdown in US growth are creating new problems in the less developed countries

Interest rates are falling in America. This should be good news for borrowers of dollars everywhere, and possibly for borrowers of other currencies as well if central banks in Europe and Japan take advantage of lower US rates to ease their own credit policies.

Historically, high interest rates have contributed to a worldwide surge in debt servicing costs since the US Federal Reserve, in October 1979, accorded an overriding priority to curbing inflation. The Fed's policy has imposed a heavy burden on borrowers, especially those who are not beneficiaries of extensive US domestic tax breaks.

A group of borrowers has been hit hard by tight money policies in the industrial countries. These are the sovereign borrowers of the non-Opec (Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries) less developed country (LDC) area. The Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) has produced a detailed survey, "Extended Debt of Developing Countries", of the non-Opec LDC debt situation. This estimates that external debt interest payments by this group of countries increased by almost 250 per cent between 1978 and 1983.

Part of this increase can be attributed to the growth in these countries' total outstanding debt, which rose by more than 100 per cent over the 1978-83 period. The remaining increase reflected the impact of higher interest rates and a widening of interest spreads against borrowers. Furthermore, non-Opec LDC debt would not have risen so steeply if borrowers had not been confronted with the sharp upturn in their interest bills which threatened to deplete their foreign exchange holdings.

In 1983, there was some slight easing in the financial pressures on the non-Opec

LDCs consequent on a decline in US interest rates from the summer 1982 peak, although the burden remained heavy. The OECD calculates the saving to these borrowers last year, solely as a result of the interest rate decline, at \$9 billion.

The survey says: "This major reduction in interest costs was particularly crucial for the major debt-problem countries. Indeed, in retrospect it seems difficult to imagine that their debt problems could have remained manageable in 1983 without the fall in floating interest rates."

With each percentage point cut in interest rates "saving" more than \$2 billion of non-Opec LDC external interest payments in a full year, other things being equal, the further fall in dollar interest rates which has occurred since September holds out the promise of some amelioration in these countries' plight.

However, their financial managers must have the feeling that they are running up a down escalator. Even in those years, as in 1983, when interest rates fall, the increase in their outstanding debt, in part the result of capitalization of interest arrears, adds to their interest bill faster than the decline in interest rates reduces it.

The OECD estimates that a fall of 2½ percentage points in average interest rates would have been needed between last year and this to offset the impact on the non-Opec LDC interest bill of the increase in these countries' debt which has occurred over the past year.

In fact, US dollar short-term interest rates so far this year have averaged 1¾ percentage points more than in 1983 as the US Federal Reserve responded to the strong US economic expansion in the spring by tightening its credit stance. A rise in the non-Opec LDC interest burden is virtually assured for this year, with the upward trend in their interest payments set to persist into 1985. The most recent decline in US interest rates will slow this process but has so far signally failed to reverse it.

The reduction in US interest rates is, therefore, likely to be

| Latin American trade and debt exposures | | | | | |
|---|----------------------|--------|---------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| | Total exports* \$ bn | To US% | To industrial countries % | Outstanding debt (\$ bn) | Interest due (\$ bn) |
| Argentina | 7.9 | 9.4 | 40.0 | 43 | 4.2 |
| Brazil | 21.9 | 23.2 | 62.3 | 94 | 10.2 |
| Chile | 3.8 | 28.3 | 74.5 | 19 | 2.0 |
| Columbia | 3.1 | 29.0 | 78.5 | 11 | 1.0 |
| Mexico | 21.2 | 58.1 | 85.8 | 90 | 12.0 |
| Peru | 3.3 | 33.3 | 68.5 | 13 | 1.2 |
| Venezuela | 16.2 | 29.1 | 55.9 | 35 | 4.2 |

*1983 tend-1983

Sources: IMF Direction of Trade Statistics 1984 and P & D estimates.

given no more than a muted welcome by the non-Opec LDC debtors and their captive creditors, the commercial banks. Their hopes will be further dampened when they consider that the fall in nominal US interest rates has by no means been matched by a similar decline in the real interest burden.

After three successive months in which US producer prices have fallen, it is not surprising that many US commentators who had been looking for an upturn in inflation in 1985 are now expecting inflation to be stable next year at about the present rate. With inflation expectations being revised downwards, nominal interest rates have subsided, but the real cost of borrowing is broadly unchanged.

Interest rates have subsided but the real cost of borrowing is broadly unchanged

Interest rates have subsided but the real cost of borrowing is broadly unchanged

Moreover, steep borrowing costs appear at long last to be restraining the rate of expansion of US economic activity. The growth rate of US real gdp slowed to 1.9 per cent in the third quarter of 1984. There has been little evidence of a pick-up in activity in the October statistics. In one respect, the US slowdown is a healthy development because it will help to curb US demand for imported goods and bring about, at the least, some deceleration in the rate at which the US balance of payments current account deficit is widening.

Nevertheless, for the non-Opec LDCs it is a decidedly unhealthy turn of events, dependent as many of them are

economy fails to provide a buoyant market for Mexican exports, which chiefly comprise energy products.

Argentina, by contrast with Mexico, has a low exposure to US markets. Indeed, Argentina's exports to the Eastern bloc (23 per cent of its total exports in 1983) far exceed its export sales to the United States. The proportion of Argentina's exports going to the Soviet Union and other Eastern bloc countries, is rising rapidly, having been as low as 8 per cent in 1979.

This may well have been a significant factor reducing the leverage of Western creditors over Argentina. Of the Latin American countries which have sought debt rescheduling, Argentina is the only one which has yet to submit finally to some form of creditor surveillance of its economic policies.

There has been a reduction in international debt tensions since the summer when it was feared that the Latin American government leaders, gathered at Cartagena, Colombia, might move towards the formation of a "debtors' cartel." International bankers are entitled to take some satisfaction from having defused this threat, at least for the time being, through their support for long-term rescheduling arrangements for the main non-Opec LDC debtors. The recent decline in US interest rates will also give marginal relief to the debtors.

Nevertheless, the slowdown in the US economy will make it much more difficult for the LDCs to sustain their exports. This, in turn, could endanger the balance of payments assumptions on which rescheduling packages have been based.

A slowdown in the US economy will make the world's debtor countries more strident in their calls for a radical approach to solving their debt problems.

The author is a partner in the stockbroking firm of Phillips & Drew.

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

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CHARTERHALL

Year of Record Profits

Mr Derek G Williams, Chairman and Chief Executive of Charterhall PLC, the UK based independent oil group, made the following principal points to shareholders at the Annual General Meeting held in London on 30th November, 1984.

- Substantial increase in Profits - Dividend doubled.
- Participation in Ninth Round of U.K. Offshore Licensing.
- Active U.K. Offshore exploration programme over next 12 months.

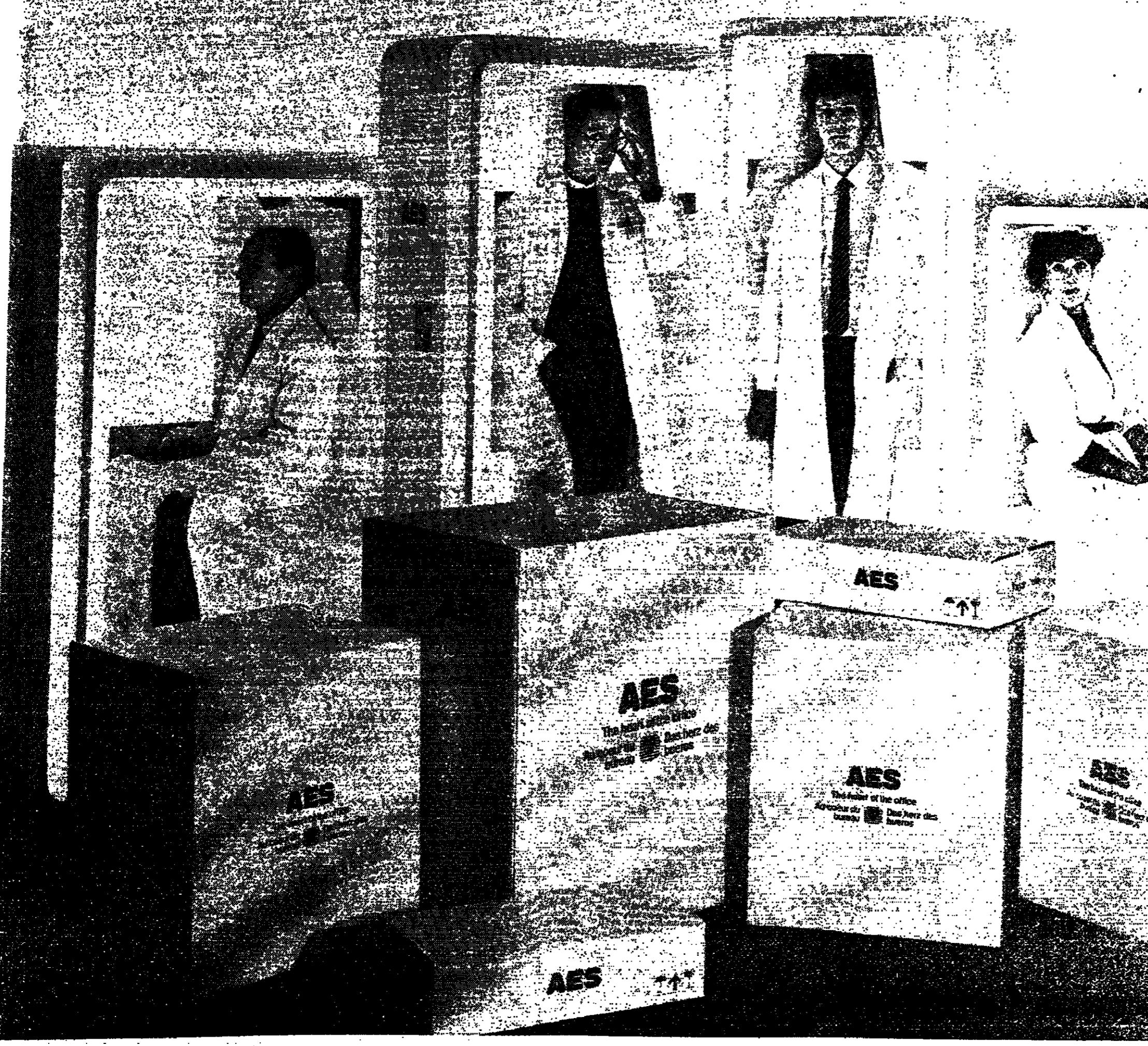
● Formation of Bidding Group in preparation for First Round of U.K. Onshore Licensing.

● 18 new producing oil wells in North America this year.

● 3 well exploration programme planned for listed Australian subsidiary over next six months.

● Exploration and production assets up by 80 per cent at £27 million.

Copies of the 1984 Report and Accounts can be obtained from the Secretary, Charterhall PLC, Sutherland House, Brighton Road, Sutton, Surrey SM2 5BA.



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AES

Suter succeeds in buying Francis for £15.5m

By Jeremy Warner

Suter, Mr David Abel's air conditioning and hairdressing equipment group, yesterday announced that shareholders representing 52.6 per cent of Francis Industries' shares had accepted its £15.5 million takeover bid.

Suter already held 4.8 million shares in Francis, the packaging and motor components manufacturer, and the acceptances bring its holding of shares to 55.3 percent.

Most of those who accepted opted for the cash alternative offer made available by Robert Fleming & Co, Suter's merchant bank adviser. Out of acceptances totalling 5.9 million shares, holders of about 4.4 million shares opted for the cash.

The course of Suter's bid for

APPOINTMENTS

Institute of Purchasing & Supply: Mr Ken Snooks has been named president. Mr Ian Griffiths has been elected chairman and Mr Alan Phillips deputy chairman.

J. Dewhurst Holdings: Mr James A. R. Dewhurst has been appointed vice-chairman in succession to Mr Michael S. Dewhurst. Mr Anthony Vice, of N.M. Rothschild & Sons, has become a non-executive director. Mr Scott S. Beattie is now financial director.

Plessey: Lord Pennock of Norton will become non-executive deputy chairman from January 1.

Century Power and Light: Mr R. J. Wells has been appointed a director.

Brown Investments: Mr Alan M. Dean becomes chief executive on January 14.

Mintex: Mr J. V. Bedford has been appointed managing director and chief executive.

Francis has been eventful. Suter first started building up a stake in September last year and then made a hostile bid in March which was ultimately defeated.

Agreed takeover terms worth nearly £18 million were then hammered out in early October but these were withdrawn by Suter last month when Francis said it would fall short of a profit forecast it had made.

Suter later revised down its cash alternative offer to 13.5p a share and made a new share offer worth 11 of its shares for every 10 Francis shares. Suter said at the time that an estimated £350,000 shortfall on the profits forecast of not less than £2.35 million for 1984, should be rejected in the value of its offer.

British Airways today launches a new look to take it into the next decade. The change of image extends from aircraft livery to the colour of the airline's cups and one of the main aims of the exercise is to make life simpler for the customer.

The woman responsible for overseeing the transition is Mrs Jennifer Coutts Clay, British Airways' controller of corporate identity.

She explains: "This is the official image that we present to the world. It is the way that we communicate. As with individuals, all companies seek an identity. Not all companies achieve it. If a company takes the question of corporate identity seriously it embarks on a life-cycle of design planning, which is part of the marketing strategy of the company."

"Any design strategy has a period of usefulness. It starts off usually with a grand impact when it is inaugurated, and then it develops and grows and takes on a life and existence of its own. It becomes familiar to the outside world and it stands for everything that the company stands for and represents. Eventually it becomes out of date and it needs to be rethought, reviewed and recast."

Why is this corporate identity change needed now?

"We know that we have made changes and the trade now knows it. Our new corporate identity is a way of stating how we are planning for the 1990s. There is no point in making a number of changes if you are unable to communicate. Some changes have, indeed,



Jennifer Coutts Clay: The way to communicate

already taken place. Training of cabin crews is now helped by such people as the Royal Ballet School. Food is healthier and more emphasis is given to making it look more attractive. The main transition, however, will take approximately two years which will give the public time to adjust."

"I think we have seen many examples of dearly loved identities phased out too quickly. People get attached to official images that they come to regard as part of their own life."

British Airways is confident

that its new corporate identity will please its customers. Two key points appear to be simplification and British internationalism.

Everything will be clearer for the customer. Take Seattle airport as an example of what can be done. There you do not have lots of signs and words in different languages. When you move from the aircraft to the taxi you simply follow silhouettes on the walls of people with their noses pointing towards baggage claim or whatever. This helps people to get from A to B in a complicated airport.

"We want to maintain pride of origin and, at the same time, identify with different segments of markets overseas. We hope to develop that line of thinking through our corporate identity stage. This is not an imperialistic statement – it is a public service communications statement."

"In past years, because of the nature of our history, we have obviously absorbed different strands from companies and corporations that made up British Airways. It is difficult for people in some parts of the world to differentiate our airline from others. Airlines tend to copy each other. We have hangover identity from the past. Now things will be structured in such a way that things will be simpler for passengers to follow."

British Airways asked people what they wanted. It has consumer councils all around the world and more than two dozen working groups representing all employees. It also

has a regular pattern of communication via British Airways News.

Then it brought in Landor Associates to produce design proposals. These were approved by the British Airways Board.

Mrs Coutts Clay's job as controller of corporate identity is to ensure the implementation of the design proposals across the airline.

The new concept includes everything from aircraft and ground vehicle livery, to tickets and catering equipment – the shape and colour of cups, cutlery and glassware. Personal clothing is an extremely important component.

"People carry the memory of the uniform in their minds. If a passenger at an airport does not know where to go, he asks someone in uniform."

"Passengers want flight deck technical crew to look authoritative. Cabin crew are rather anxious now to look less formal, more welcoming and friendly, and as though they belong to customer service."

Whoever ultimately designs the new uniforms will have to produce a wearable concept – one that can be adapted for winter or summer and for local routings. British Airways has found, for example, that Indian passengers appreciate the Indian cabin crew wearing saris.

The cost of the revamp will, in the main, be absorbed by the constant need to update and refurbish. Replacement will, to a large extent, be part of a constant maintenance cycle.

Mrs Coutts Clay feels that it is appropriate that British Airways should be leading the way with a new look which will put it into the 1990s.

"Of course other airlines want to know what we are doing, but I think it would be a shame if they copy us exactly. More and more airlines are emerging, and once the trend towards privatization develops I think that others will want to develop their corporate identity in such a way that they do not just look like one of the gang as they did in the 1970s, when the International Air Transport Association was extremely strong."

British Airways feels that the passenger of the next few years, faced with a choice of carrier, will look for distinctiveness – something which is different from the crowd. The fact that it is contemplating a programme of this enormous scale will, it feels, show the world that it is capable of moving ahead.

Mary Gostelow

Costain link clears way into China

Costain, the mining and contracting group, has secured a passport for potentially lucrative work in mainland China through a get-together with Hopewell Holdings, a building and property group with substantial interests throughout the Far East.

Costain and Hopewell are setting up a jointly-owned company, Hopewell-Costain, based in Hong Kong, to carry out joint projects in the colony, China and Macau.

Mr John Wells, Costain's finance director, said: "This link gives us a passport for opportunities in mainland China."

Costain hopes to be able to

pick up work for development of a new power station in China being handled by Hopewell.

Costain was the contractor for the £50 million Island Eastern Corridor motorway in Hong Kong.

Mr Wells could not place any figure on business which might flow from the new development. "We have high hopes but it really is too early to say just at the moment."

Costain's increased involvement in the Far East follows a recent decision to trim its activities in Canada. Its 49 percent stake in its Canadian offshore is being sold to raises around £25 million.

Spanish Government sells Rumasa stores offshoot

Madrid (Reuter) – The Spanish Government is to sell most 700 companies and 17 banks before the Government expropriated it in February 1983, saying its impending collapse would cause a national economic crisis.

The Cisneros group is getting what many Spanish businessmen see as the biggest white elephant on the market – Galerias Preciosas department store chain, part of the troubled Rumasa business empire group. Organización Diego Cisneros.

No price was announced, as the sale was based on a complex deal under which Cisneros will take on part of Galerias' debt, increase its capital and introduce a profit-sharing plan.

Galerias Preciosas, with 10,500 workers and annual sales of 60 billion pesetas (£290 million), was the flagship of Rumasa, which comprised al-

most 700 companies and 17 banks before the Government expropriated it in February 1983, saying its impending collapse would cause a national economic crisis.

Farmers are also reckoned to have grown 789 million tonnes of coarse grains – barley, oats, rye and maize – compared with 690 million tonnes last year. The council says the outlook for 1985's harvests is also good.

The size of the harvest has enabled producing countries to give a record 10.4 million tonnes under the Food Aid Convention.

Output record for wheat

In a year which has seen famine sweep Africa, world wheat and coarse grain production and the amount of grains given under the Food Aid Convention have reached record quantities, the International Wheat Council reports.

The council, an international secretariat which monitors world cereal supply and demand on behalf of its member countries, estimates that wheat production this year will total 505 million tonnes. Output in 1983 was 496 million.

Farmers are also reckoned to have grown 789 million tonnes of coarse grains – barley, oats, rye and maize – compared with 690 million tonnes last year. The council says the outlook for 1985's harvests is also good.

The size of the harvest has enabled producing countries to give a record 10.4 million tonnes under the Food Aid Convention.

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Unaudited interim results for the half year ended 28 September 1984

| Year ended 24.3.84 £'000 | Gross income from property Turnover of service industry division | Half year ended 28.9.84 £'000 | Half year ended 28.9.83 £'000 |
|--------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 47,342 | 25,626 | 23,923 | |
| 151,734 | 80,108 | 71,792 | |
| 199,076 | 105,734 | 95,715 | |
| 19,144 | 10,852 | 9,324 | |
| 10,536 | 4,442 | 3,229 | |
| 1,491 | 2,366 | 720 | |
| 31,171 | 17,660 | 13,273 | |
| (14,162) | (7,544) | (7,783) | |
| 17,009 | 10,118 | 5,490 | |
| (553) | | | |
| 16,456 | 10,116 | 5,490 | |
| (4,609) | (2,348) | (997) | |
| 11,847 | 7,768 | 4,493 | |
| (37) | (62) | (38) | |
| 11,810 | 7,706 | 4,455 | |
| 7,439 | 2,050 | 6,143 | |
| (7,439) | (2,050) | (6,143) | |
| 11,810 | 7,706 | 4,455 | |
| (2,663) | (1,310) | (1,310) | |
| (3,549) | (2,003) | (1,138) | |
| 5,598 | 4,393 | 2,007 | |
| 2.59p | 1.60p | 0.90p | |
| | Earnings per ordinary share | | |

NOTES

1. The directors will decide on any amount to be distributed under the employee profit sharing scheme when the results for the full year are known.

2. The profit and loss account taxation charge is based on the profit for the half year at current tax rates less the related advance corporation tax recoverable.

3. Capital profits less losses after capital charges and taxation comprise:

| Surplus of sale proceeds over original cost of property less taxation | 2,953 |
|--|-------|
| Other items, including capital expenditure on exhibition centres written off | (903) |
| | 2,050 |

Note: The above surplus on sale of properties includes attributable valuation surpluses previously taken up in capital reserve of £2,226,000.

4. The directors have declared the payment of an interim ordinary dividend of 0.5p net (1983: 0.225p net), in respect of the year to 24 March 1985. Warrants will be despatched on 25 January 1985 to ordinary shareholders on the register at the close of business on 14 December 1984.

5. The abridged profit and loss account for the year to 24 March 1984 is an extract from the latest published accounts for the Company which have been delivered to the registrar of companies.

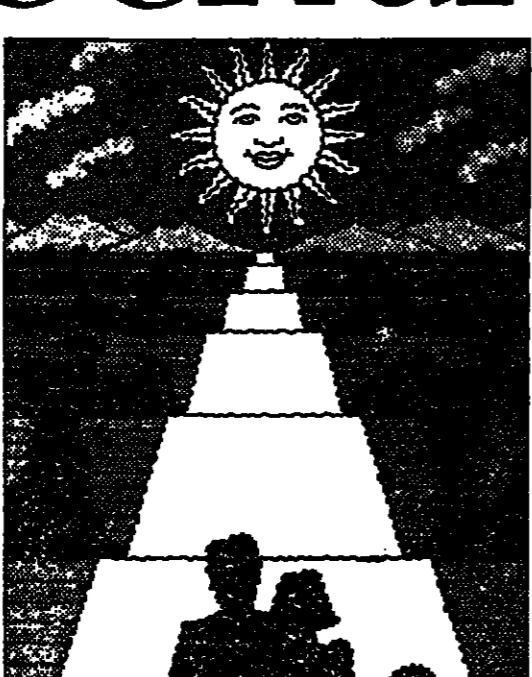
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How the temp moved up

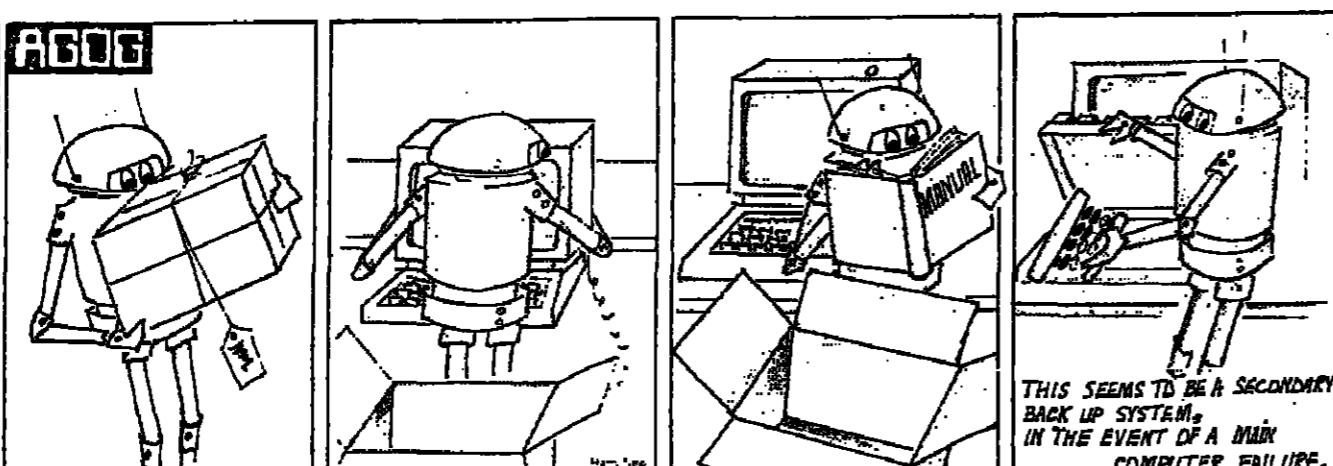
It was the typewriter that first took women into office work. Nearly a century later, opportunities in the new technology are luring them away.

This was also the pattern among speakers at a conference in London of the Industrial Society to tell women about the new careers, with practice demonstrations on Commodore micro-computers.

Jane Joslin graduated in law at 21 and then became a temp. This led to a managerial job in the specialized field of providing computerized financial data to people investing in the stock market.

Ten years ago Jane's job did not exist, but her department has grown rapidly from three to 16, ranging from a PhD and an archaeology graduate to people with experience of business, banking, stockbroking. Personality and ability to communicate were more important, she said, than keyboard or computer knowledge.

Sally Appelbe was a secretary. She was a temp processor arrived in the office. She was "totally hooked". Soon she was super-



For the first-time user of a small-business micro, one of the most time-consuming and confusing tasks is wading through hundreds of jargon-filled user manuals, dealing with the gleaming new hardware, accompanied by all of the attractive "free" software. Sanyo, who are currently aiming hard at the new user with its MBC 550/555 and souped-up "dash 2" models, have come up with a new teach-yourself giveaway package, which should make life simpler for novices.

Getting Started, the self-tuition package consists of two audio tapes, a data disc and reference booklet, which take the user through the basic steps needed to start working with some of the software bundled with the micro, such as Wordstar, Calcsstar and Reportstar. The audio tapes are synchronized with the speed of its monitor screen, so that users can learn to type directly from the screen. Operator start work almost immediately. It will be given free with all new machines, and those who have already bought Sanyo machines will be supplied with a pack on application.

China calling

Advanced direct-dialling telephone systems are to be installed in all Chinese coastal cities open to foreign investment within two years as part of the republic's effort to bring its post and telecommunications up to date by the end of this century. The programme-controlled digital system, already installed in Shenzhen, capital of Fujian Province, will operate in Xiamen from the end of the year and in all other cities, including Shanghai, Guangzhou and Shenzhen, by 1985, and six others in 1986. Residents

Learning to love the micro jargon

COMPUTER BRIEFING

of Tianjin, Shanghai, Zhuhai and Fuzhou can now dial directly to cities throughout China and the rest of the world. The ministry of telecommunications is to install telegraph machines for individual customers in all special economic zones and designated open cities next year.

Austrian research

A large-scale programme for research into developments in micro-electronics to be subsidized by the Austrian federal government has been initiated.

Twelve fields of research are to be covered, in the course of which areas will be explored which it is hoped will furnish innovations of both technical and economic interest. These fields include semiconductor technology, micro-processors, communications science, computer graphics and the processing of measurement data. Suppliers are to go to Austrian enterprises which will collaborate with recognised research institutes and which, at the same time, take into consideration social factors.

Buzzing Bell

Bell Canada International is expanding its activities in Europe

by moving into the potentially lucrative European independent computer maintenance market. The company, part of Bell Canada, the telecommunications, energy and printing conglomerate, has acquired General Computer Systems (GCS) one of Britain's leading computer maintenance firms. The British company has introduced a number of successful marketing concepts, including "Bus Stop", which brings computer repair to the High Street, and "Transat", a customs and engineering service for overseas companies exporting computers to Europe.

As a result of the broadening of its activities, GCS has had a turnover around a 25 per cent growth over the last three years, but despite its increased growth, was short of capital to finance further expansion and was on the point of seeking a listing on the USM when the BCI approach came.

Auto recipes

A computerised recipe service for food shops has been introduced in Sweden by KF, the Swedish Cooperative Union and Wholesale Society. Now being tested in one of Scandinavia's coop stores, the system is expected to

THIS SEEMS TO BE A SECONDARY BACK UP SYSTEM, IN THE EVENT OF A COMPUTER FAILURE.

be extended to some 100 retail outlets throughout the country after proper evaluation. Connected to the KF data centre in Stockholm, the equipment in the grocery store consists of a push-button keyset, a display and a printer. After pressing the start button, the customer is offered 12 groups of foodstuffs on the display: meat dishes, fish dishes, sandwiches, desserts and beverages, and, through a series of numerical key selections, arrive at the chosen dish and its list of ingredients. If the customer so desires, he or she can obtain a neatly printed recipe, complete with instructions.

UK events

Electro & BBC Users' Show, New Horticultural Hall, Westminster, London, SW1, Thursday to Sunday (01-456 6383).

CADCAM International Show, NEC, Birmingham, January 8-10 (01-873 3898).

Which Computer?, NEC, Birmingham, January 15-16 (01-891 5051).

Micro Show, Leisure Centre, Swindon, January 17-29 (020-304641).

High Technology & Computer Education, Barbican, London, January 23-26 (01-930 1612).

Apricot & Sirius Computers Show, Kensington Town Hall, London, February 6-7.

International Trade Show for Home Computers and Software, LET, Olympia, London, February 17-19 (0332 777000).

Overseas events

Mini/Micro Computer Exhibition and Conference, Stockholm, Sweden, January 13-16.

Computer Exhibition - Computer Thailand, Bangkok, Thailand, January 23-26.

● Compiled by Personal Computer News.

What makes a good processing manager?

Question: Could you give a profile of a good data processing manager?

Answer: A manager of any speciality still has to be a competent manager and this rule applies to computer specialists. However, there are some points to avoid. One of the main failings of computing people is to grow stronger roots than visible branches. By this I mean that competence in a tricky technology should not prevent a good data processing manager from understanding the policies being forced in the highest reaches of the organisation.

There is a great need for computing people to operate in the risk-taking parts of any business. They show that (supported by the newer forms of computing) they can participate in improvising systems as well as formalising systems. There will always be a shortage of people who can cover all the span of desirable characteristics in a data processing manager.

Not such a silly idea

To my consternation, I have learnt that my daughter is already writing programs which are too large to run on the BBC Micro at her school. Since I was intending to buy her such a machine for home use I am asking if this idea is now a foolish one?

Probably not. Your daughter is very likely writing programs with more enthusiasm than skill. Some study of the ways in which these programs can be compacted will probably resolve the problem. It is true, of course, that the standard "vanilla" model of the BBC is cramped for main store. However, there are several ways of expanding the unit.

Proper responses to users' queries can be better made if some dialogue is carried out to clarify questions. Questions about available cargo ships might be improved if super-linkers were not included in the search, for example.

These explorations of active database systems are important to the handling of general office files. The contents here are often difficult to classify, but knowledge about them can help in using them via computers.

WORKSHOP

system is a database plus rules for operating on it.

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Homing in on future

larity, the sound and visual opportunities offered by home computers can be a stimulant to ideas presentation and communication.

Many students benefit from the habits necessary in computing that demand the breakdown of "large" ideas into many small pieces. Although it would be gib to claim that they instantly learn how to manage complexity and so forth, it seems that computing is a good way of learning by making mistakes without coming to much harm in the process.

It is especially useful if they invent projects which need to be split up among several people. Of course, there are other ways of developing these skills, but the home computer can be a compelling invitation to go a bit further.

Processing is a pain

Since acquiring a computer I am spending many hours doing word processing. Despite using a typist's chair I still suffer from some back pains. Is there anything I can do about this?

It might be a good idea to check the relationship of your screen and keyboard to your posture. If you are either craning to see the screen or unduly bending down to the keyboard, then you may be aggravating a back problem.

My preference in chairs is one without a back support, but which gives a tilt to the seat so that my knee rests on a pad. This strange design works well for me, but I cannot promise that it will please you.

Present for the future

Is it reasonable to buy a computer for a Christmas gift which is based on the MSX standard? Will this approach overcome the problems of exchanging software between machines?

The Japanese suppliers supporting the MSX standard certainly hope that a large pool of software will be attracted to fit it. However, in looking at what is in the shops for 1984's lucky youngsters it would appear that there are plenty of alternatives to the MSX standard which already have ample software available to them. While all the MSX products are of a good standard it seems that none of them is sufficiently outstanding to overshadow those non-MSX products which are popular in the home computer field.

A legal advantage for Britain

By Philip Leith

ered, useful expert systems for lawyers.

This indicates the interest which lawyers have in the area of computers and law. Of course, the legal profession has always suffered the problem of "information excess" and has been a prime target as users of high technology.

In 1946, the year that ENIAC, the first modern, electronic computer was operational, one lawyer wrote: "Today the lawyer works substantially as he worked before the industrial revolution. Only automated legal research will save him from playing one of the most confused, ill-paid and unsatisfactory professions in the world of tomorrow."

Work into legal expert systems that will be able to give different kinds of advice. The importance of this aspect was pointed out by Professor Brian Niblett, who is both a barrister and Professor of Computer Science at Swansea.

Professor Niblett foresees that one could build one expert system with legal advice most suitable for the prosecutor in a case, and a separate system for the defendant.

Some experts also believe

that advice might be available to the person in the street but most in the research area think to expect tort advice from a television set is optimistic.

Britain was late in becoming involved in the field of computers and law, the earliest project being sponsored rather surprisingly by the UK Atomic Energy Authority. However,

there are signs that Britain might well become one of the countries foremost in the new field.

Queen's University in Belfast, for example, which has been involved in designing legal information retrieval systems for some time now, has recently been awarded a new post in advanced information technology and law. Queen's itself, now intends to expand its computing and law research into the building of high-power

project would result in Britain having the largest, most advanced and probably best-funded computing and law research field in the world.

Given the support which the lawyers have already given to the use of computers in their offices it may not be long before Britain captures a reputation as the foremost exponent of the field.

The author is a senior lecturer at the Open University.

I do not wish to be a spoil-sport but can you suggest any real educational value attaching to home computers?

As a regular user of databases I am pleased to hear that the Japanese are building "database machines" in the Fifth Generation computer project. What are they trying to do that is new?

First, overall system performance is improved if a special purpose computer is brought

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CRICKET: GAVASKAR REPEATS CALL FOR NEUTRAL UMPIRES AS ENGLAND SINK TO ALL-TIME LOW

No cheer in sight for beaten England

From Richard Streeton, Bombay

England dutifully managed to summon a measure of fighting spirit and prolonged the first Test match yesterday until an hour after lunch. India finally won a game they have dominated from start to finish by eight wickets and took a lead in the five-match series which will be hard to pull back. Sivaramakrishnan, the little leg spinner, carved his own niche by joining Vinoo Mankad as the only Indians to capture 12 wickets in a Test against England.

This was England's thirteenth successive Test match without a victory and it is not easy to see any immediate end to what is now the worst sequence in their history. In 1984 England have already lost rubbers against New Zealand, Pakistan and West Indies and had the worst of a drawn game with Sri Lanka. Now they have been crushed by India and four Test matches follow at Delhi, Calcutta, Madras and Kanpur, all of them centres where definitive results are hard to obtain. India's selectors announce shortly after the finish that their team for the Delhi Test on December 12 would be selected from the same 14 players.

David Gower, the England captain, admitted afterwards that England really lost this match by their poor batting on the first day. They also had justification at the end to feel aggrieved about the umpiring in this game, though Gower defected any questions about it. "As you know, we have the facility to make our comments on reports to the Indian Board," he said. "The will have plenty of reading to do when I have finished writing my reports. I will be thorough and honest."

England have very properly decided against repeating the mistakes made on Fletcher's tour by making public any criticism of Indian umpires. There were, however, at least four possibly five or six decisions made against English batsmen that seemed open to doubt and a little unexpectedly it was Swaroop Kishen, the Round 19th umpire, who was involved every time. Swaroop — the name means "sweet feature" in Hindi — brought little joy to England as he stood in his seventeenth Test match, equaling the Indian umpiring record.

Australia promote a tough nut

By John Woodcock

Cricket Correspondent

Allan Border has been given the difficult task of leading Australia in their next match against West Indies, starting in Adelaide on Friday. Kim Hughes, whom he succeeds, is among the 12 players whom the Australian team will be chosen.

There is, in fact, a slight doubt about Border's fitness. He was hit on the hand while playing for Queensland against Tasmania over the weekend, a match in which he scored 144 notout. Rodney Hogg has been named as vice-captain, though he would seem an unlikely choice to take over should Border fail.

Border and English's captain, Gower, have a certain amount in common. They have played each the same number of Test matches (Gower 65; Border 63); both played on first of them in 1978; both are left-handed batsmen and, like Gower, are being thrown in as captain against Clive Lloyd's all-conquering West Indians.

But when Gower displays at the wicket a certain elegance and in his captaincy a certain blandness, Border has had to come up the hard way. He is still, bullet-proof and very Australian. In West Indies

Border: fitness doubt

earlier this year Border has an outstanding Test series, scoring 521 runs at an average of 74.42.

He decided early on to become a full-time professional cricketer. This brought him to England in 1977, when he played with prolific success, albeit briefly, for East Lancashire in the Lancashire League, as well as for Gloucester-Second XI.

His test apprenticeship was served while the Lillee, Chappells and Marshes were with Packer, and

Marshes with Packer, and

and Mars with Packer.

ICE HOCKEY

Wasps win Autumn Cup then lose their sting

By Robert Pryce

Durham Wasps emerged from their demanding weekend with the first national trophy of their 38-year history and a severe case of coaching. They played the two teams in the British Autumn Cup two days later, File Flyer 64 at Netherthorpe in the Autumn Cup final, sponsored by Bluecell, on Saturday before going down 7-4 to Murrayfield Racers in Edinburgh on Sunday.

Paul Tilley, their player-coach, evaded his team from the competition after Saturday's game. "We've got to leave now and go to the other end of the country."

Ron Plum, the File player-coach, describes the Durham style of play as "more of a dump-and-go game". The weekend, the mind may have eventually told on them. After two wins from Crapper, Durham 24 up, and 24 minutes of the game at Murielshill, they conceded two goals to Lynch and attempted to exploit the numerical advantage presented to them by a Murrayfield penalty.

Durham have built on the foundations of last season, when they finished second in the league. Tilley, stronger and 10lbs heavier than last season, when he was considered among the fastest skaters in the league, leads a well-organized team, which should eventually firm up its most contentious position when Frank Kilian, a former England netminder, secures his release from Nottingham.

Nutmeg is the one position where Southampton Vikings do not

SQUASH RACKETS

Jahangir in search of opposition

From a Correspondent

It took Jahangir Khan 32 minutes to win his fourth world open championship here yesterday when he beat Qamar Zaman, his fellow Pakistani 9-0, 9-3, 9-4. It was the greatest number of points he had lost throughout the whole event.

The total conceded was 28 in six matches, the highest achievement by any player in a match between two sides.

The previous best was 187 by the Australian Bill Ponsonford in

the third Test in Adelaide starting on Friday.

WEST INDIANS: First Innings 658 for 7 dec (D. L. Haynes 240, R. B. Richardson 145, Groombridge 10). Total 318.

BOWLING: Davis 25-3-10-0; Walker 36-6-14-1; Groombridge 25-3-10-0; Haynes 10-2-2-0; Hayes 6-0-2-0; Richardson 10-4-0; Lidge 10-2-2-0; Duchen 7-3-3-1.

No-balls and wides debited to bowlers.

Extras (b, lb, 22, 2b, 2b) 55.

Total 7 (wts) 51.

*J Bright and M Hughes did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-37, 2-151, 3-165, 4-327, 5-433, 6-572, 7-599.

BOWLING: Davis 25-3-10-0; Walker 36-6-14-1; Groombridge 25-3-10-0; Haynes 10-2-2-0; Hayes 6-0-2-0; Richardson 10-4-0; Lidge 10-2-2-0; Duchen 7-3-3-1.

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BOXING

Sibson must meet Graham in February

By Srikumar Sen
Boxing Correspondent

The order of bouts in the £50,000 four-contest package offered to Tony Sibson by Mike Barrett, the London promoter, last week will have to be changed. Herol Graham's bout, which was third after Sibson's European title defence against Fredrickson, has been moved up to a £400,000 NCB televised contest with Buster Drayton, of United States, will now have to be second, according to the British Boxing Board of Control.

Ray Clarke, the secretary of the board, said yesterday: "No way are we going to allow Sibson to fight Drayton before Herol Graham. The fight with Winterton in January is all right, but Sibson must fight Graham by the end of February or March. And even after that the European Boxing Union will insist on a defence. So Drayton will have to wait."

The only way Sibson can meet Drayton as planned is by giving up titles. The change in the sequence of contests would seriously affect Sibson's chance of making the £50,000 that Barrett has offered.

Graham's manager Brendan Ingles was a little concerned that if Sibson met Drayton first and was stopped by the tough American, who knocked out Britain's Jimmy Cable and Mark Taylor, Graham's challenges would be completely demolished. Ingles was delighted yesterday when he heard the decision that the board would be taking his next meeting.

"Even if Sibson beats Drayton, he could hurt his hand or go sick and we might not hear from him till next season. I'm glad the board will be putting 'Bomber's' fight after Winterton. Sibson has been slagging off 'Bomber'. 'Bomber' will wipe the floor with him. I hope he will beat him up and knock him out."

As far as he was last of the four in the boxing ring, never see that both with Sibson if Clegg is right. The West Ham boxer may now have to join the queue behind Jimmy Price, the British No 2 after Graham. Taylor could even find himself in an eliminator with Errol Christie.

BASKETBALL

Leicester's record destroyed by Vikings

By Nicholas Harling

Even Walkers Crisps Leicester must have sensed that their position at the top half of the National League was a slightly flustered one, considering that five of the seven clubs they had beaten were in the bottom half of the table. And on Saturday they relinquished the last undefeated record in the league when they were beaten by FSO Cars Warrington and Liverpool Vikings.

Vikings enhanced their own championship aspirations in the process, winning 92-91 to avenge the defeat at home which suffered on the same court last season. That was hardly the result Leicester needed to begin a crucial week in which they will receive Sperrins Solent Stars twice in the Anglo-Scottish Cup tomorrow, and in the first division on Saturday.

Steve Fitzsimmons, Solent's assistant coach, who watched the game, will report back on Leicester's attacking flair but emphasize the defensive shortcomings that enabled Vikings to lead out at half-time. With Wall Broek, doing splendidly on his opposite guard, Walderon, and Vaughan not being able to impose his muscular presence until the second half, Leicester were unable to support the excellent Tim Carr, who was late.

For all that, the last 12 minutes were gripping enough. Leicester having whittled Vikings' lead down to points, promptly went into points down again to pull even more. With 90 seconds left there was only a point in it, but then Vaughan missed a vital shot for Leicester. When Pemberton fouled Penny, Vikings played out the last 24 seconds to secure the win that sets them up for tomorrow's Kellie's Cup semi-final first leg against John Carr, Doncaster.

Joe Whiston, Vikings' coach, the side's recent experience having a rather strained feel to him for their home court had served them well. "That was what helped us through this game," he said. "We took some silly shots but the difference is that when the going gets tough we have that Liverpool experience to pull us through. It's always big to win at Leicester. It's an excellent team and have this wonderful crowd."

Leicester's defeat enabled Solent to regain the league leadership. They beat a luckless Heslopshire Bolton 50-20 points, a margin exceeded by Liverpool, Kingston, who completed the double, thrash the Solent Stars' encounter 52-32 points, all of which must make Terry Crosby despair. Bolton's American sank 55 points, the second highest individual total of the season on Saturday and another 47 on Sunday, all to little avail.

VOLLEYBALL

British hopes spiked by Bulgarians

By Paul Harrison

-Britain's representatives in the Europeans' Champions Cup faded predictably in Bulgaria on Sunday against two of Europe's strongest sides.

Capital City Spikers lost 3-0 to CSKA Sofia, who have five current internationals in their line-up, while Millwall Ladies were beaten by the same margin. Capital City Spikers also in Sofia. Both the Bulgarian teams had crucial height advantages and their power serving proved too much for the British.

The return legs are on Sunday, both at the Eastgate sports Centre in Leyton, when the best it seems that the British can hope for is to take a set from the vastly more experienced and professional Bulgarians.

Rufus T Firefly set to make a name for himself over fences

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

Steve Smith Eccles looks to have a good chance of winning today for the successful young Lambourn trainer Nicky Henderson in Little Anthem (1.13) and Rufus T Firefly (2.45). The latter, who made a good seasonal debut over hurdles on the same course 12 months ago, is napped to do so again this time over fences in the Bridge Sollars Novice Chase.

Rufus T Firefly was a decent hurdler who is expected to do even better steeplechasing. He should be too good on these terms for Flying Mistress and Golden Hornet as well as the recent Wolverhampton winner, Remember Rock, even though he lacks their experience of jumping fences at racing pace. I regard Tim Forster's nice young Deep Run horse Belgrave Lad, as the principal danger to my nap. A winner over hurdles at Thurles and Limerick in Ireland last season, Belgrave Lad also looks the type to do even better over fences.

Little Anthem, owned and bred by her trainer's wife, Diana, will not have to be anything out of the ordinary to cope with the likes of Celtic Princess, Joscilla, Maranzi and Rueful Lady in the Oats and Celtic Cone Novices Hurdle. Her run at Stratford in September when she finished second to Silver Snow pointed to her having sufficient ability. Pucks Fella and Ballydoughan, second and third respectively to It's Only a Joke at Taunton last month, clash again in the Credenhill Handicap Chase with the stakes still tipped marginally in favour of Pucks Fella, who has already won four

Course specialists**HEREFORD**

TRAINERS: L. Kenward 14 winners from 81 runners, 27.5%; M. R. Rimell 13 from 82, 17.2%; S. Smith Eccles 8 from 92, 9.0%; D. Davies 22; S. Moxon 8 from 92, 23.5%; S. Smith Eccles 8 from 37, 21.6%; H. Davies 11 from 78, 14.1%.

LEICESTER

TRAINERS: M. R. Rimell 14 winners from 84, 25.0%; M. R. Rimell 5 from 82, 16.5%; S. Davies 20; P. Colman 11; D. Davies 10; S. Moxon 8 from 113, 15.9%; J. P. Colman 7 from 113, 15.9%.

JOCKEYS: P. Soudahore 20 winners from 113 rides, 17.7%; A. Webster 12 from 75, 15.4%.

OFFICIAL SCRATCHINGS: All entries (69); All The Queens Men.

HAINES BUYS FREELY FOR US STUD

THE TIMES TUESDAY DECEMBER 4 1984

Impressive Mossy Moore is on course for Embassy Final

Mario Cairns, an impresario, has acquired a smart chaser in Mossy Moore, judging by the eight-year-old's five-length victory from Grinders in the Swift Handicap Chase at Newcastle yesterday. Mossy Moore, who started at 11-8 and carried 12st 1lb, scored impressively.

As Geordie Dun swung out of the saddle, Ken Oliver, the horse's owner, said: "This one could be a two-mile champion. He's one of the best chasers I've had and at 18,000 Guineas he was a very cheap horse indeed, as he had won six races."

"Now I will run him in another race before tackling the Embassy Final at Ascot on January 12." Oliver added.

The 6-3 favourite, Grinders, was quickly into his stride, but a mistake at the fourth then handed the initiative to Mossy Moore, who strode clear at the twelfth and made the rest. Mossy Moore put in some really bold fencing. He is the only horse in training owned by Mr Cairns, who runs a string of bingo halls and theatres along the east coast of Scotland.

Peter Easterby maintained his fine form by following up his four

times over today's course and distance of three miles and a furlong.

Having had such fun with that good jumper Baron Blakney, it was hardly surprising when Martin Pipe and Bob Wheatley spent 9,500 guineas at Newmarket this autumn buying his younger half brother, The Liquidator, when he was sent up for sale at Tattersalls from Bruce Hobbs' flat yard.

He should make a winning debut in the Grey Bomber Novices Hurdle.

At Leicester, I am looking to

Jimmy Fitzgerald's promising mare, Scotsman Ice, to win the Pickwell Novices' Hurdle. In

her only race this season she

was runner-up at Catterick to Dover, who has won again in the meantime.

Golden Knoll, the winner of his first and only race this season at Southwell, now looks to have an excellent chance of winning the Great Glen Novices' Chase in the most capable hands of that talented jockey, Mark Perrett. The Oakham Chase ought to be at the mercy of Golden Friend, as long as he has recovered from being brought down at Ascot.

Ken Oliver sees Mossy

Moore as two-mile champion

of the year.

Phil Turner, who served on Coasey

Gangler, his only mount of the day at Sandown Park on Saturday, was

on the mark again on his sole ride, Amber Rambler, at Nottingham, to bring his score for the season to 19.

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form by following up his four

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THE TIMES TUESDAY DECEMBER 4 1984

Legal Appointments

**JOHNSON STOKES & MASTER
(HONG KONG)**
in association with
Norton Rose Botterell & Roche

Are seeking further commercial lawyers in the range 1-4 yrs. qualified. A sound knowledge gained with a major London provincial city practice is sought. Experience in company re-organisation and debt restructuring is particularly welcome but not essential. The post is for 3 yrs. extendable. Salary £12,000 plus and other terms should prove attractive to any solicitor working in the United Kingdom whether in the City of London or elsewhere.

Applications should be made to Reuter Simkin who have instructions to produce a shortlist. Please quote Ref: C124. Applications should be received by Monday 14th December. Reuter Simkin Limited, 26, Clifford Row, London WC1X 4HE. Tel: 01-405 6852.

REUTER SIMKIN
RECRUITMENT

**SWEET & MAXWELL
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**EDITORIAL
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Sweet & Maxwell wish to appoint Legal Editors to take responsibility, after training, for practice and students' books, looseleaf works and journals.

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Sweet & Maxwell is part of the Legal Publishing Division of Associated Book Publishers (UK) Ltd., and applicants should write, in confidence, stating age, qualifications, experience and present salary to:

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**CHIEF EXECUTIVES DEPARTMENT
Principal Assistant
Solicitor**

PO (14-17) £15,000-£15,500 p.a. inclusive
Newham is located east of the City of London. As a London Borough it has a wide range of inner city problems in the provision of housing, education, social and other services. This is reflected in the demands made on the Council's legal staff who are expected to make a full contribution to the Council's work.

There is now a vacancy for a Solicitor who has the ability and the experience to take responsibility for the Legal Division's litigation work (both civil and criminal) and the preparation of the Council's contracts. In addition to dealing personally with many of the more important matters, he or she will be responsible for the work of three Assistant Solicitors (one an Associate Clerk), as well as the administration staff. He or she will also be expected to make a significant contribution to the management of the Legal Division (including deputising for the Head of Legal Services) and to assist as required in a wide variety of legal work.

The work is varied and interesting and should suit someone who has at least five years admitted experience (preferably but not necessarily in local government), including substantial experience of litigation work, and is keen to develop a career in local government law and administration.

For further information and application forms write to the Chief Executive, Management Services Division, Town Hall, East Ham, London E6 2RQ or telephone 01-471 0619 (24 hour answering service) quoting reference ASC/3.

Closing date: 19th December 1984.

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**ASSISTANT
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Due to expansion, the Library and Information Department of this law firm requires an additional enthusiastic Assistant Librarian to take an active part in the provision of library and information services to members of the firm.

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An interest in the law is desirable.

Accurate typing ability is essential. The post would suit a recent graduate of library school requiring the necessary experience for licensure of the Library Association.

Please apply in writing with a curriculum vitae to Mrs C. Miskin, Head of Library and Information Department.

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also on page 30

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This City firm has a worldwide reputation for its specialist skills and is closely allied to the insurance markets. While the majority of the partners are involved in this specific sector, a flourishing conveyancing group undertakes both commercial and domestic work, often for multinational clients of the practice. In order to expand this activity - which could well lead to providing a wider range of services - we seek an able solicitor at least in the mid-30s, who can both manage the department and generate new work. A substantial background of commercial conveyancing is essential. The post will attract those who prefer the environment of a smaller firm in the City of London. Salary will be negotiated at the level indicated, with a pension scheme provided.

Please send a career synopsis in confidence, indicating present remuneration, to Michael Egan, Ref: AA28/9025/TT.

PA Personnel Services

Hyde Park House, 50a Knightsbridge, London SW1X 7LE.
Tel: 01-235 6000 Telex: 27874

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Applications are invited for the post of Solicitor to the Board which will become vacant in the New Year.

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The work of the Solicitor is very wide ranging and requires a commercial instinct and the ability to communicate at all levels but experience in the electricity supply industry is not essential. Experience in handling the acquisition and disposal of properties will be a distinct advantage.

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Letters of application to the Secretary, Eastern Electricity, P O Box 40, Wetherhead, Ipswich IP9 2AQ by 17 December 1984.

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The Company Secretary's Department has a vacancy for a Lawyer who is interested in pursuing a career which combines work in the legal field with a wider role in the administration and business of the Company. The person selected will be located initially in the headquarters of the Mond Division of ICI in Cheshire, working under the Division Secretary and with another lawyer in the department.

Candidates for the post should be Barristers or Solicitors, preferably in their twenties, with a good academic background. Some experience in

private practice or in industry would be helpful.

An attractive salary and excellent benefits, including a profit-sharing scheme, are offered.

Please apply for an application form to: Mrs Linda Kennedy, Head Office Personnel Department, Imperial Chemical Industries PLC, Imperial Chemical House, Millbank, London SW1P 3JF. (Tel: 01-834 4444).



MAJOR US LAW FIRM

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Send CV (which should include telephone number) to:

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by December 17th 1984.

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This post will interest young and ambitious Solicitors, preferably but not necessarily from Local Government and ideally with at least two year's post qualification experience.

The person appointed will be responsible for a wide range of legal work, including managing Committees of the Council and attending other relevant Committees and Members Groups. There will be a general range of legal duties including advocacy in the Magistrates and County Courts and at Public Inquiries.

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Further details and an application form for the above vacancy can be obtained from the Personnel & Management Services Office, Town Hall, The Peace, Epsom, Surrey, KT17 2BL ext 2184.

Closing date: 14th December 1984.

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SOLICITOR FOR SHIPPING DEPARTMENT INTERNATIONAL FINANCE COMPANY

The European subsidiary of a major US group seeks a solicitor qualified in English or US law for its shipping department. He or she should have gained at least 5 years' experience in ship finance, loan documentation, chartering and post-closing procedures and work-out situations in a banking environment or law firm specialising in maritime work.

This is an exciting opportunity for the right person, with the possibility of being required to relocate to Greece (Athens/Piraeus area).

Salary up to £35,000 p.a. (or equivalent), plus benefits which will be negotiable depending on qualifications and eventual location.

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- ★ Personality and drive
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This is an extremely important position within a key department and offers an exceptional opportunity for rapid career progression. For the individual appointed, there will be no limit to remuneration or promotion prospects within the practice.

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their professional advisers, draft and make schemes in accordance with the by-acts procedure, and other orders, either authorising a particular action or of an administrative nature. The work requires a sound knowledge of trust law and the basic principles of conveyancing.

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HM Land Registry - 4 posts (1 each at Lytham St Annes, Nottingham, Swindon and Tunbridge Wells).

These regional posts involve the examination of the more complex titles on first registration and advising on questions of law arising from dealings with registered land. A knowledge of conveyancing is required together with an interest in real property law.

Criminal Law

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This work requires lawyers of a good general ability with a capacity for hard work and a marked interest in advocacy. The posts will include consideration of the facts of individual cases, the preparation and presentation of evidence and the giving of witness statements before the Board; preparation and conduct of the case including examination and cross-examination of witness at the hearing; writing hearing note and final disposal of case.

Prosecution

HM Customs and Excise - 2 posts

Lawyers initially will be dealing with prosecutions where they advise on proceedings, conduct them in Magistrates Courts and have responsibility for them in the Higher Courts. Later they may be involved in civil litigation, drafting subordinate legislation and advising on the legal aspects of the Department's work.

Prosecutions

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Lawyers, who work in small regional teams, advise on criminal matters, prepare cases for commitment to Crown Courts and are involved in advocacy at Magistrates' Courts in England and Wales. Previous experience in criminal work an advantage. Some travel involved.

General

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Lawyers in the Criminal Appeal Office are concerned in every aspect of the Court of Appeal Criminal Division. The Lawyer appointed to the Chancery Division will lead a team drafting more difficult and complex court orders, researching and preparing precedents in the light of new legislation.

Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food - 2 posts

MAFF lawyers provide a full service (except conveyancing) which includes advisory and Parliamentary work, civil and criminal cases in domestic courts, and cases before the European Court of Justice. One post is advisory and the other concerned with the conduct of civil and criminal cases in all courts of England and Wales and, on behalf of the United Kingdom, before the European Court of Justice.

Charity Law and Trust Administration

Charity Commission - 4 posts (3 in London, 1 in Liverpool)

Charity Commission lawyers conduct correspondence and have personal contact with charity trustees and

Senior Legal Assistant - £16,275-£21,550 according to age, qualifications and experience. Promotion prospects to £24,000 and above.

Salaries for posts outside London £13,000 less.

For further details and an application form to be returned by 4 January 1985 write to Civil Service Commission, Almoner Unit, Basingstoke, Hants, RG21 1JB or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 465551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref: G1/576/2.

The Civil Service is an equal opportunity employer

SAUDI ARABIA

Commercial Lawyer

Luxembourg bank's rebuff to receiver

Continued from page 1
refused to pay a £200,000 contempt fine, is forced to go to court if it is likely however that his claim to the funds will be accepted and he will then draw them.

The court would be less likely to entertain a claim from the sequestrators because they exercise a quasi-judicial function and no court will enforce the penal legislation of another country.

According to legal opinion, Mr Brewer could face difficulties because the miners' union assets are in the names of Mr Trevor Cave, deputy chief executive, and Mr Stephen Hudson, finance officer, who are nominees of the three trustees whose duties Mr Brewer has assumed.

But provided Mr Brown can show the court that the two men, as nominees of the three trustees, were acting as agents that should present no great obstacle.

The return of the union's assets to Britain, which could be achieved within hours of a successful court hearing, would not necessarily mean the lifting of sequestration and receiver-ship orders.

Even if the £200,000 contempt fine is paid, together with legal costs that have accrued from the various legal actions in foreign courts, the union will have to give an undertaking to obey present and future court orders.

In law, sequestration is a penalty in its own right and is likely to remain in force without the undertakings.

Even then, the receivership might remain in force; a court hearing on the receivership will be heard on Thursday.

Pissarro sold, page 16

Storm over homes plan for Ice Age woodland

By David Nicholson-Lord

Fierce controversy has broken out over a Labour borough's plans for a council estate in the largest remaining area of ancient woodland in inner London.

Southwark's proposals for 93 houses in Sydenham Hill Wood, 23 acres of oak, beech and hornbeam largely undisturbed since the Ice Age, have aroused protests from the Nature Conservancy Council, the London Wildlife Trust, local MPs and residents. Objectors believe the decision of the inspector at a planning inquiry next month will be an important test case for wildlife conservation in the city.

What has particularly irritated opponents is the expense of building on the site.

Mr Jeremy Iles, director of the London Wildlife Trust, which runs the wood as a nature reserve, said yesterday: "It is the hilliest steepest slope you could ever hope to come across."

Mr Gerald Bowden, Conservative MP for Dulwich, says each house could cost an extra £60,000 because of the slopes and drainage. He is asking Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, to intervene.

More than a century ago the French Impressionist painter Camille Pissarro lived in Sydenham and sketched many of its scenes. The wood remains one of the few fragments untouched since his day by the spread of urbanisation.

Mr Nick Snow, chairman of Southwark's housing committee, rejected £60,000 per house as the extra cost of development.

Pissarro sold, page 16

375 die in gas leak

Continued from page 1

"There were cars, bicycles, anti-rickshaws, anything that could move on the road trying to get up the hill. I saw people just collapsing by the side of the road."

Methyl isocyanate is considered so dangerous that its use or storage in Britain is hedged around with stringent safety regulations, which are to be tightened again early next year. No British company now uses the chemical and only one European company, Bayer of Cologne, produces it.

● NEW YORK: The Union Carbide Corporation does not yet know why safety devices failed on the 45-ton tank of

British security, page 6

methyl isocyanate (Trevor Fishlock writes).

Engineers and chemists from the United States and Bombay were on their way yesterday to find out what went wrong.

● ATHENS: The village of Iliokomi, east of Salonika in northern Greece, was evacuated yesterday after an Austrian tanker-lorry carrying a highly explosive chemical substance, skidded off the road and turned on its side (Mario Modiano writes).

Police said the lorry was heading for Istanbul with 15 tons of ethylene oxide, which could explode if it came into contact with oxygen.

British security, page 6

Pissarro's view of St Stephen's, Dulwich (top), and today's reality (Photograph: Murray Job).

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Queen holds an investiture, Buckingham Palace, 11.

The Duke of Edinburgh attends a reception at St James's Palace for young people who have received the Gold Standard in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, 11.30 to 12.30.

The Prince of Wales, vice-patron, The British Council, attends a meeting at 10 Spring Gardens, SW1, 10.30.

The Princess of Wales visits the

Royal School for the Blind, Leatherhead, Surrey, 11.

Princess Margaret, president of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, attends a lunch, Regency Rooms, Ilkeston, 12.15; and later attends a thanksgiving service at Derby Cathedral for the presentation of prizes, 2.35.

The Duchess of Kent attends the Paul Lown Fairs Park Lane Hotel, 10.30; and the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, 11.30 to 12.30.

Prince Michael of Kent attends the presentation ceremony of the Freddie Trophy, Dorchester Hotel, London, 6.

Princess Michael of Kent attends the Royal Smithfield Show, Earls Court, 11.

New exhibitions

Archives for the Future, Stafford Art Gallery, Bury St Edmunds, 1.10pm.

A view of Stirling over the last 100 years by local photographers, Sterling Smith Art Gallery and Museum, 4, Albert Place, Sterling, 10 to 5, Sat 10 to 4; (ends April 7).

Victorian Music, Central Library, Reference Staircase, Edinburgh, Mon to Fri 9 to 9, Sat 9 to 1; (ends Dec 31).

Love: work by members of Collective Gallery, 52-54 High St, Edinburgh; Tues to Fri 12.30 to 5.30, Thurs 12.30 to 7, Sat 10.30 to 5; (ends Dec 22).

Music

Piano recital by John Savory, Art Gallery, Bury St Edmunds, 1.10pm.

Choir concert, St Edmund's Parish Church, 1.30pm.

Recital by Mansour Purkian (violin) and Bernard Roberts (piano); Turner Sims Concert Hall, Southampton University, 8.

Concert by the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Cheltenham Hall, 7.30.

Piano recital by Philip Smith; National Concert Music Centre, Buxton, 11.30am, 7.30pm.

Recital by Michael Preston (viola) and David Lloyd (piano); Reid Concert Hall, Edinburgh, 1.10pm.

Talks, lectures

Religion in the Early Italian Renaissance, by Dr George Holmes, Department of History, Edinburgh University, 4.15.

Clothing in the Pacific by Dr Evan MacKie; Hunterian Art Gallery, Lecture Theatre, Glasgow, 7.30.

Concerts, 1.15pm.

Christmas message

The Queen will broadcast on both radio and television on Christmas Day. The message will be broadcast on BBC Radio 1 and 4 at 9.15am and repeated on Radio 2 at 10am and Radio 4 at 1pm. It will also be shown on BBC 1 at 3pm, BBC 2 at 8.40pm, Independent Television at 3pm and Channel 4 at 5pm.

Central heating system developed thus without an imitation arising (9).

19 What durables are, and a big noise therein (7).

20 Differing with M.O., I play games here (7).

21 Magazine making a hit (5).

22 The conclusion of a home game (5).

23 She passes depression on to father (5).

24 One standing by book (7).

25 Half-back stands on anyone in wet ground (5).

26 Monk gets up to admit brothers and one divine (9).

27 Booby, to put it another way (5).

28 Spots, so she speaks before the eyes (5).

29 What extraordinarily oral gurus are (9).

30 A slight reverse half face-to-face (7).

31 Rose at Grangeburn thus unofficially gives tongue (7).

32 Difficult decision I had, on reflection, left to Miss Woodhouse (7).

33 More than cover remaining drink (7).

34 Early development of city district during Cypriot revolution (9).

35 Subject to very good conditions initially (5).

36 One in black going round being tearful (5).

37 Off the cuff, I am to remind you while speaking (9).

38 Inside the park, called a shrub (9).

39 Food and drink (5).

DOWN

1 How market stallholders are equipped to resist (9).

2 Where lived the brave, put finally to the sword (5).

3 I lost out, surrounded by damage in bad weather (4-5).

4 Charge for transporting soldiers into battle (7).

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TV top ten

National top ten television programmes in the week ending November 25:

ITV

- Coronation Street (Wed), Granada, 20.20pm
- Coronation Street (Mon), Granada, 18.15pm
- Home That Tires Them, 18.30pm
- Crossroads (Wed), Central, 14.05pm
- The A-Team, ITV, 14.05pm
- Bob's Your Uncle, BBC1, 14.15pm
- Bob's Full House, 13.25pm
- Swindon Sports, 13.30pm
- Nine O'Clock News (Fri), 11.00pm
- Jim'll Fix It, 11.35pm

BBC2

- Lame Ducks, 9.10pm
- To The Manor Born, 8.75pm
- Death of a Salesman, 8.30pm
- Entertainment USA, 4.00pm
- M.A.S.H., 4.25pm
- Bob's Your Uncle, 4.30pm
- Laugh '77 (7) Nearly Paid my Licence Fee, 3.75pm
- High Society, 3.30pm
- Dark Star, 3.20pm
- Banff, 3.05pm

Channel 4

- Brookside (Mon), 5.30pm
- Explosives Preferred but not Economic, 4.45pm
- Heaven's Walk, 3.75pm
- Midnight Sun, 3.45pm
- American Footlet, 2.40pm
- St Elsewhere, 2.25pm
- Children of Law, 2.05pm
- Children of Law, 2.00pm
- One Night of Love, 2.00pm

Broadband television. The average weekly figure for audiences at peak times (with figures in parentheses showing the reach - the number of households watching at least one programme):

BBC1: Breakfast Time/Mon to Fri 1.5m (5.6%); TV-am: Good Morning Britain: Mon to Fri 2.0m (7.7%); Sat 2.0m (7.0%); Sun 5.4m (4.4%).

ITV: Entertainment, 1.5m (4.5%); Saturday Teatime, 1.5m (4.5%); Sunday Teatime, 1.5m (4.5%).

Channel 4: 1.5m (4.5%); Sunday Teatime, 1.5m (4.5%).

SW: 1.5m (4.5%); Sunday Teatime, 1.5m (4.5%).

National, 5.6m (15.5%); Sunday Teatime, 5.6m (15.5%).

Regional, 5.6m (15.5%); Sunday Teatime, 5.6m (15.5%).

London, 5.6m (15.5%); Sunday Teatime, 5.6m (15.5%).

Regional, 5.6m (15.5%); Sunday Teatime, 5.6m (15.5%).

Regional,